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CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Fifth periodic reports of States parties

RUSSIAN FEDERATION*

* The present document is issued without formal editing.

For the initial report submitted by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, see CEDAW/C.5/Add.12; for its consideration by the Committee, see CEDAW/C/SR.14 and 19 and Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/39/45), paras. 90-122; for the second periodic report submitted by the Government of the USSR, see CEDAW/13/Add.4 and Add.4/Amend.1; for its consideration by the Committee, see CEDAW/C/SR.145 and 147 and Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/44/38), paras. 337-374; for the third and fourth periodic reports submitted by the Government of the USSR, see CEDAW/C/USR/3 and CEDAW/C/USR/4 and Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/50/38), paras. 496-552.

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INTRODUCTION

This document is the fifth periodic report of the Russian Federation on the measures taken to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women during the period 1994-1998.

The report was prepared in accordance with the guidelines for preparation of reports by States parties (CEDAW/C/7/Rev.3). It uses information received from the ministries and other governmental agencies of the Russian Federation responsible for dealing with issues connected with the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and from the organs of executive power of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation (hereinafter "the members of the Federation"), as well as from public organizations concerned with these issues. Part I of the report gives details of the socio-economic situation in the Russian Federation and of the associated demographic processes, citing statistics on the status of women and describing the structure of the national machinery created for the implementation the Convention. Part II contains concrete information on individual articles of the Convention: the legislative, administrative and other measures introduced in the Russian Federation for the purposes of implementing the Convention.

I. BASIC GENERAL INFORMATION

A. The socio-economic situation

The socio-economic transformations in Russia in the period 1994-1998 led to radical changes in all spheres of social life - in the economy, in politics, and in the social structure of society. Russia took fundamental steps in the transition to a market economy and began a profound reform of the whole system of social relations.

The former system of administration and distribution was dismantled, the economy, finance, production and trade were liberalized, many market methods of management were introduced, and the entrepreneurial activities of citizens were encouraged. The structure of ownership was substantially altered. And private enterprises and joint stock companies and partnerships began to play a leading role in Russia's economy.

The situation in the consumer market changed radically. The concept of deficit disappeared from retail trade. New non-State institutions came into being in education, health and culture. And the people was given an opportunity of making a genuine choice among forms of education, medical services and leisure activities.

However, the economic reforms proved complicated and contradictory, and their social consequences were not always thought through. Mistakes in economic policy and the weakening of the system of State management caused imbalances in the structure of production, impairing its efficiency and the competitiveness of its output, and led to a big increase in internal and external debt.

The drop in the volume of industrial output, the inefficient collection of taxes, the increasing failure to make reciprocal payments, and inadequate investment caused big problems for the revenue part of the budget. In turn, the acute shortage of budgetary resources placed severe restrictions on the ability of the State to carry out socially oriented policies. The people's standard of living fell markedly. And the arrears in the payment of wages, social benefits and pensions became chronic.

Other causes of the inability of the State to carry out the adopted social programmes in full were the drop in world prices for energy and other commodities, whose export earnings met a considerable part of the consumer demand for foodstuffs and finished goods, and the world financial crisis.

The socio-economic situation worsened markedly in Russia in 1998. Already in the first half of the year the growth in non-payments speeded up, export earnings began to fall, the budget crisis worsened, and all sectors of the financial market became destabilized. A decline in production showed itself in April-May and became threatening in the second half of the year.

The banking and financial crisis which erupted in August 1998 caused galloping price rises, a sharp upturn in inflation, and a drop in consumer purchasing power. The number of people with incomes below the subsistence level rose to 31.9 million (21.7 per cent of the total population). In mid-1998 practically one in five Russians was living below the poverty line.

In these circumstances the new Russian Government headed by E. M. Primakov is doing everything possible to cushion the impact of the crisis, check the drop in living standards, and make partial compensation for the losses, especially to the poorest population groups.

November 1998 saw the adoption of a very important federal document "On measures taken by the Government and the Central Bank of the Russian Federation to stabilize the socio-economic situation in the country". The priority tasks include the lowering of social tensions and provision of support for personal incomes.

The new Russian Government received a mandate not only to implement the most immediate anti-crisis measures but also to take further steps to secure a substantial correction in the course of the socio-economic reforms. The main engines of this effort include the strengthening of the State's role in the formation and development of the market, the prevention of social unrest, the restabilization of society, and the attainment of sustainable economic growth, as well as - in the longer term - the creation of a socially oriented market economy. The main strategic goal is to continue the economic reforms and preserve the existing gains in democracy.

B. The demographic situation

At the beginning of 1998 Russia's population totalled 146.7 million, and 53 per cent of this total were women. Since 1994 the number of Russians has declined by 1.3 million (0.8 per cent).

These unfavourable changes occurred as a result of natural loss and a falling birth rate: in 1996 deaths exceeded births by a factor of 1.6 - a situation unchanged in 1997.

The changes taking place in demographic processes were directly reflected not only in the total population figures but also in its age/sex composition. The main feature of the present age composition of Russia's population is the decline in the numbers of children and adolescents. As a result of the falling birth rate the number of children aged under 15 has been constantly declining since 1990. In the period 1994-1997 the number of children fell by 3.2 million (9.2 per cent) to 31.3 million (21 per cent of the total population). In the same period the number of citizens of pensionable age increased by 0.9 million (3 per cent). By the beginning of 1998 there were 30.6 million such persons (20.8 per cent of the total population).

In 1997 women outnumbered men by 9.1 million, with 1,132 women for every 1,000 men. This ratio is due to the contribution of the middle and old age-groups (at age 65 women outnumber men by a factor of 2.2), where the male death rate is several times higher.

In the space of four years Russia's birth rate fell by 10.4 per cent (from 9.6 per 1,000 in 1994 to 8.6 in 1997). The number of births is still falling. In 1997 births for the whole country totalled 1,259,900, 10.5 per cent fewer than in 1994.

In 1997 the aggregate births indicator (the number of births per woman in her lifetime) was below 1.23, as compared with the 2.14 to 2.15 needed simply to reproduce the population. Low aggregate indicators were recorded in preceding years as well. In 1994 the figure was below 1.4.

A declining birth rate against a background of higher absolute and relative numbers of women of childbearing age shows that unfavourable demographic processes are gaining ground as a result of socio-economic and political factors, which are making women unwilling to have children, and of the deterioration in women's health during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period and consequently in the health of new-born babies and the country's rising generation as a whole.

The total death rate has fallen in recent years: it was 13.8 per 1,000 in 1997, as against 15.0 and 15.7 in 1995 and 1994 respectively.

Average life expectancy increased in the period 1994-1997 by 2.7 years to stand at 66.7 years in 1997: 60.9 for men and 72.8 for women.

The rate of premature deaths is declining but remains high. A total of 535,000 persons of working age died in 1997, including 98,000 women (18 per cent). The contribution of women of working age to the overall female death rate was about 10 per cent. (In 1995, 672,000 persons of working age died, including 119,000 women.)

First place among the causes of death among women of working age (and indeed among men) is still occupied by accidents, poisoning and injuries, which are responsible for almost a third of all female deaths.

The infant mortality rate fell from 18.6 per 1,000 in 1994 to 17.2 in 1997. The basic reason for this was the reduction in deaths in the neonatal period as a result of the targeting of neonatal problems. Infant deaths from infectious and parasitic diseases, diseases of the respiratory organs, accidents and injuries also declined.

The maternal mortality rate stabilized: in 1996, for the first time in many years, it fell below 50 per 100,000 live births to stand at 48.9. But in 1997 it rose again to 50.2. In 1994-1997, 2,735 women died from complications during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period.

The annual number of registered marriages is declining. In 1995-1996 it fell by 214,000 (20 per cent). The situation improved somewhat in 1997. The number of marriages registered at registry offices increased by 61,800 over the 1996 figure (7.1 per cent), and the number of divorces fell at the same time by 7,200 (1.3 per cent). Similarly, the number of dissolutions per 1,000 marriages fell to 598 (1994 - 630; 1995 - 619; 1996 - 649).

One feature of the evolution of conjugal/family relations is the consistent increase in the number of children born out of wedlock. In 1997, 319,000 babies were born out of wedlock (25 per cent of total births, as against 23 per cent in 1996, and 21 and 20 per cent in 1995 and 1994 respectively).

C. Statistical survey of the status of women

Women account for 47 per cent of the number of persons employed in the economy. Sixty-six per cent of women of working age are employed. The average age of working women was 38.8 years in 1997; the figure for working men was 39.2 years.

Working women have a higher level of education than working men. Among persons employed in the economy, 22 per cent of women and 18 per cent of men have higher vocational qualifications, while the figures for secondary vocational are 38 and 28 per cent respectively.

During the period 1993-1997 the economic activity of the population of working age fell by one percentage point a year, with women recording a bigger decline than men. In March 1996, 74.3 per cent of women of working age were economically active, while the figure for October 1997 was 72.5 per cent (80 per cent for men).

Recent years have seen a downturn in the proportion of women in such sectors as trade, catering, lending institutions, finance, and insurance, which had previously employed more women than men. Greater numbers of men are being attracted into these sectors because they have the biggest wages growth; as a result, women are being squeezed out.

An analysis of the numbers of employed women by occupation shows that over the period 1994-1997 the proportion of wage-earners in the total number of employed women increased from 89 to 97 per cent, while the proportion of non-wage-earners (employers, members of cooperatives, self-employed) fell from 11 to 3 per cent (for men the figures were 83 to 95 and 17 to 5 per cent

respectively). At the same time the proportion of employed women not working for wages increased from 36 per cent in 1994 to 39 per cent in 1997 (the proportion of men fell from 64 to 62 per cent during this period). The number of women entrepreneurs also increased, from 21 per cent in 1996 to 30 per cent in 1997 (for men the drop was from 79 to 70 per cent).

Ever since the official recognition of unemployment in Russia in 1991 its main feature has been the predominance of women in the total number of unemployed persons officially registered with an agency of the employment service (in 1994 - 64.2 per cent; in 1995 - 62.2 per cent).

This high proportion of women is typical of all the various categories of Russians officially registered as unemployed, regardless of their age, level of education, family status, etc. At the end of 1997 females accounted for 58 per cent of unemployed persons aged under 18; 71 per cent of the 18-24 age group; 66 per cent of the 25-29 age group; 52 per cent of persons of pre-pensionable age; and 63 per cent of persons of other ages. Women made up 67 per cent of unemployed persons holding a certificate of graduation from a higher education institution, 77 per cent of persons who had graduated from a specialized secondary education institution, 63 per cent of persons with general secondary education, and 49 per cent of persons with incomplete secondary education.

Women accounted for 74 per cent of unemployed parents bringing up minor children or persons disabled from childhood, for 92 per cent of unemployed single parents, and for 76 per cent of parents with large families.

In recent years there has been an increase in the length of time women spend unemployed. At the end of 1994 the average period of female unemployment was 5.7 months, but by the end of 1997 it had increased to 7.5 months. The average period for men was 5.2 months at the end of 1994 and 6.9 months at the end of 1997.

The existing network of vocational education institutions in the Russian Federation (training centres, technical vocational institutions, specialized secondary and higher education institutions, etc.) includes more than 3,500 establishments for training the unemployed, with a capacity of over 400,000 places. Vocational training is provided for unemployed citizens in more than 400 occupations and professions. Training is also provided in the 63 training centres of the State employment service.

At the beginning of 1998 about 110,000 women throughout Russia (60.1 per cent of all unemployed citizens) were receiving vocational training under the auspices of the employment services. On the completion of their training 58.8 per cent of these women found jobs. Retraining has been a fundamental component of the vocational training of women (56.4 per cent of all women receiving vocational training), while initial training has been provided for 21.4 per cent. A tenth of the women acquired a second (subsidiary) occupation.

The situation remains unsatisfactory with regard to the protection of women at work. At the beginning of 1998, 12 per cent of the women employed in large- and medium-sized industrial, construction, transport and communications

enterprises were working in jobs which did not meet the health and safety standards: industry - 14.9 per cent; construction - 6 per cent; transport - 4.9 per cent; and communications - 2.2 per cent. In 1997 almost 74,000 women (1 per cent of all women employed in these branches, or a sixth of all persons doing heavy manual work) worked at tasks beyond their strength. In the enterprises and organizations of the agro-industrial complex some 600,000 women are working in hazardous or strenuous conditions.

Women suffer more injuries in production work. The worst situation with regard to industrial injuries is found in the enterprises and organizations of the agro-industrial complex, where about 19,000 women are injured every year. Over the past four years 1,399 women were killed in production work: 411 in 1994; 428 in 1995; 271 in 1996; and 289 in 1997.

Medical care for women is provided in the polyclinics, hospitals and consultation, diagnosis and evaluation centres of the general health service (7,600 women's consultation units, 7,900 children's polyclinics, 45,200 midwifery units), as well as in specialized women's health establishments (275 maternity hospitals, 61 perinatal centres, over 200 family planning and reproductive health centres, and eight obstetrics and gynaecology research institutes).

The number of personnel working in the health system increased. For example, in 1997 there were 46.2 doctors for every 10,000 persons, as against 43.3 in 1994, while the figures for intermediate personnel were 111.5 and 109.7 respectively. The number of paediatricians working in health institutions improved slightly (from 24 per 10,000 children in 1994 to 25.5 in 1997), and the number of obstetricians rose from 5 to 5.4 per 10,000 women between the same two years.

More than a half of women of childbearing age suffer from gynaecological ailments. The morbidity rates per 100,000 women rose over the past five years: endometriosis by 46 per cent; inflammatory complaints by 30.5 per cent; and female infertility by 3.2 per cent. The number of normal births fell from 37.9 per cent in 1994 to 31.6 per cent in 1997. The proportion of premature births was 3.7 per cent in 1994, 4 per cent in 1996, and 3.8 per cent in 1997.

The number of self-induced abortions declined in the Russian Federation from 3,436,700 in 1992 to 2,498,100 in 1997. It is especially important that this reduction occurred mainly among girls aged 14 and under - by 38 per cent.

The incidence of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age also fell, from 90.3 in 1992 to 64.9 in 1997, as did the rate per 100 births, from 203.7 in 1992 to 201.6 in 1997. The number of criminal abortions also fell by 52.9 per cent between 1992 and 1997: among girls aged 14 and under by a factor of 3 and in the 15-19 age group by a factor of 2.9. The maternal post-abortion death rate turned downwards: 204 cases in 1993 (28.6 per cent); 148 cases in 1996 (23.2 per cent); and 130 cases in 1997 (20.5 per cent).

As in the past, however, one in ten abortions in Russia was performed on a girl or woman aged under 19. The incidence of gynaecological problems among adolescent girls increased threefold over the past five years. Early sexual maturity and early initiation in sexual activities have produced the phenomenon

of "teenage pregnancy", which has an adverse impact on the health of new-born babies as well as on the health of their mothers.

In 1994, 23 per cent of women of childbearing age had access to modern means of contraception (in 1995 23.5 per cent, in 1996 24.7 per cent, and in 1997 24.5 per cent). According to Health Ministry figures, 6.8 per cent of women of childbearing age were using hormonal contraception in 1997 (in 1994 3.6 per cent and in 1995 4.6 per cent).

In 1997 the number of tuberculosis-sufferers was 20.5 per cent higher than in 1994: 320,900 as against 266,300. In 1997 a first diagnosis of "active tuberculosis" was made for 24.2 per cent more women than in 1994.

As of 1 January 1998 there were 1,661 recorded cases of HIV-infected women, including 30 suffering from AIDS (as of 1 January 1994 there were 264 recorded cases of HIV-infected women). Eighty-three women have died from HIV/AIDS since 1987.

Russia's education system has 130,500 establishments of preschool, primary general, basic general, secondary (full) general, and initial vocational education, more than 2,593 specialized secondary schools and about 900 higher education institutions. The period 1994-1998 saw big changes in education as a result of the shift in its purposes and values, the forms of its delivery, and the methods of managing the education system.

In 1994 the Russian Federation had 72,800 preschool institutions (7 per cent fewer than in 1993) catering for 6.1 million children. At the beginning of 1998 there were 60,300 preschool institutions catering for 4.7 million children. Over the period 1994-1997 preschool attendance fell by 1.4 million (23 per cent). The preschool coverage of the 1-6 age group fell from 56 per cent in 1994 to 54 per cent in 1997.

The reduction in the number of preschool institutions is connected with the difficult economic circumstances, the privatization of enterprises, and budgetary problems. In addition, the period 1993-1997 saw a decline in the demand for the services of preschool institutions as a result both of an absolute decrease in the number of children of preschool age and of the development of other forms of child care such as private kindergartens and walk groups and the re-appearance of tutors and nannies. The number of women making independent provision for their children also increased. Accordingly, the number of children awaiting admission to a preschool institution fell from 496,000 in 1992 to 240,000 in 1997. However, despite the ongoing social changes the Russian Federation has managed to preserve the State system of preschool education.

The Russian Federation has a differentiated system of payment for the services of State preschool institutions: the cost to the family does not exceed 20 per cent of the total cost of maintaining a child in a preschool institution; but for individual categories of children, in particular children from large families, the amount paid by the family is even lower. Children with development problems attend kindergarten free of charge. However, the cost of maintaining a child in a preschool institution has risen considerably. Many

families, especially in those regions of Russia where socio-economic conditions are difficult, cannot afford to send their children to a preschool institution.

The secondary general education system has 70,200 institutions employing 1.7 million teachers, 85 per cent of them women. A total of 22.2 million pupils are enrolled in secondary education, including 11.1 million girls.

The initial vocational training system has more than 4,000 schools. Girls accounted for 277,000 of the system's 800,000 students in 1997.

The 2,593 State and municipal specialized secondary schools have 2 million students, including 1.2 million girls (58.5 per cent). The teaching is provided by over 171,600 teachers, 71 per cent of them women.

The higher vocational training system has 880 State and non-State institutions. A total of 297 non-State higher education institutions has been licensed to offer programmes of higher vocational training. In 1997, 750,900 students entered higher education institutions in Russia; the total enrolment was 3.2 million, including 1.8 million girls (55.4 per cent).

One feature of the recent development of the personal services branch of the economy, which has a direct or indirect effect on the creation of favourable conditions for family life (conditions affecting women in particular), has been the growth in the physical volume of the demand for such services. In 1995 the year-on-year increase was 9 per cent, in 1996 - 8 per cent, and in 1997 - 10 per cent. However, the network of service enterprises declined in size by a third over the past three years to a present total of 57,100 shops and workshops providing personal services. The numbers of dry cleaners and laundries fell by 35.8 and 27.8 per cent respectively. Sixty-three per cent of all service enterprises are in the non-State sector.

D. National machinery for the advancement of women

The period 1994-1997 witnessed a continuation of the work to consolidate the national machinery for ensuring equal rights and equal opportunities for women and eliminating discrimination against them at all levels and in all branches of power in the Russian Federation.

Since November 1993 a Commission for Women, the Family and Demography has been operating in the Office of the President of the Russian Federation; it is a collegial advisory body for the formulation and coordination of State policies for achieving equal rights and opportunities for men and women, enhancing the status of women, supporting the family, and solving demographic problems in the Russian Federation.

A Committee on Women, the Family and Youth has been established in the second convocation of the State Duma (the lower chamber of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation).

Since 1996 the Ministry of Labour and Social Development has had a Department for Women, the Family and Children, which is responsible for coordinating a unified national policy for the family, securing social equality

for women, and ensuring the survival and healthy development of children. This Department works in collaboration with the central agencies of federal executive power, the executive agencies of the republics of the Russian Federation, the regions, areas and autonomous entities, the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg, and public associations and organizations.

The ministries and departments responsible for social affairs have sections dealing with women's problems.

In order to strengthen the national machinery for ensuring equal rights and equal opportunities for women and eliminating all forms of discrimination against them, and bearing in mind the recommendations contained in the final documents of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), since May 1996 a Commission on the Advancement of Women has been working under the auspices of the Government; its main task is to ensure that the federal organs of executive power and the executive organs of the members of the Federation take agreed steps to devise and implement a strategy for the advancement of women. This Commission is headed by a deputy prime minister of the Government of the Russian Federation.

The Commission draws its members from the heads of the federal organs of legislative and executive power, representatives of NGOs, and academics specializing in the problems of the socio-economic status of women. In the performance of its functions the Commission takes the necessary decisions for coordinating the activities of all the branches of power relating to the advancement of women, and prepares proposals on priority areas of State policy for women and recommendations on the implementation of the final documents of the Beijing Conference.

In order to consolidate the efforts of all the participants in the process of social development and to expand the possibilities and scope of the social partnership, in 1997 the Ministry of Labour and Social Development set up a permanent Round Table of women's public associations and non-commercial organizations. The main functions of this Round Table are to coordinate the work on strengthening the collaboration between State agencies and NGOs in delivering and protecting women's rights within the framework of democratic human rights, and to find the means and forms of a social partnership between State agencies and NGOs to tackle the problems of the socio-economic status of women and to create a unified data base on NGO activities, their priority areas of interest, and the existing possibilities of solving social problems.

One important element of the national machinery is the holding of all-Russian conferences to devise a strategy and tactics for the work on the advancement of women. In December 1994 and May 1998 the Government held conferences on "Women and development: rights, realities, prospects". It has become a tradition to hold, in conjunction with the agencies of the national machinery, all-Russian women's conferences to consider individual problems of the status of women: in 1994 - "Work, employment, unemployment"; and in 1996 - "Women for social security and sustainable development".

II. REVIEW (BY ARTICLE) OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Article 2

The fourth periodic report described in detail the legal embodiment of the principle of the equality of rights of men and women in the Constitution of the Russian Federation and other relevant legislation. All the new legislation adopted since 1994 is based on the principles of guaranteeing equal rights for men and women and creating equal opportunities for the exercise of these rights.

In December 1995 the Russian Federation adopted an act "On the procedure for complaint to the courts concerning actions and decisions violating the rights and freedoms of citizens", under which any citizen is entitled to complain to the courts if he considers that his rights or freedoms have been violated by an illegal act (decision) of a State agency, organ of local self-government, establishment or enterprise and its associations, public association or official, or civil servant (art. 1).

The court delivers a decision on the findings of its consideration of the complaint. If the complaint is found to be justified, the court declares the act (decision) in question unlawful and orders that the citizen's demands shall be met and the action taken against him revoked, or that his violated rights and freedoms shall be restored by some other means.

The court determines the liability of the State agency, organ of local self-government, establishment or enterprise and its associations, public association or official, or civil servant for the act (decision) which led to the violation of the citizen's rights and freedoms.

A new Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (CCRF) was adopted in 1996; article 4 establishes the principle of the equality of citizens before the law regardless of sex, race or nationality.

For the purposes of protecting mothers and children, the new CCRF prohibits the imposition of compulsory work (art. 49) or restriction of liberty (art. 53) in respect of women aged 55 years or over, pregnant women, and women with children aged under eight years. Nor may pregnant women and women with children aged under eight be punished in the form of detention (art. 54) or suffer a new form of punishment in the Russian Federation - life imprisonment (art. 57). As before, the death penalty may not be imposed on women (art.59).

The extenuating circumstances pertaining to the person of the guilty party listed in the existing criminal legislation have been extended to include "the existence of young children" (art. 61 (d)). The inclusion in part 3 of article 60 of the CCRF of a provision to the effect that in determining the form and severity of a sentence the court must take into account inter alia the effect of the sentence on "the situation of the family" of the guilty party is of greater significance for women than for men. Under article 61 (c) of the Code, the list of extenuating circumstances also includes pregnancy.

The new rules on deferment of sentences imposed on pregnant women and women with young children (art. 82) are more humanitarian than the old ones. Under the new CCRF the categories of women whose sentences may be deferred have been

expanded. As before, deferment may be applied in the case of all convicted pregnant women and women with young children, except when the sentence is one of deprivation of liberty for five years or more for serious and exceptionally serious crimes against the person. But, in contrast to the old Code, under which such deferment was available only if the child was aged three years or under, the new CCRF provides this possibility for women with children aged up to eight years.

The new CCRF treats pregnancy not only as an extenuating circumstance but also as an aggravating circumstance when a woman is not the perpetrator but the victim of a crime. Pregnancy is mentioned in connection with the following categories of crime: rape of a woman known to the perpetrator to be pregnant (art. 126, section 2 (e)); unlawful deprivation of liberty inflicted on a woman known to the perpetrator to be pregnant (art. 127, section 2 (f)); and taking a pregnant woman as a hostage (art. 206, section 2 (f)).

The new criminal legislation does not contain article 134 of the old Criminal Code of the RSFSR on "Obstructing the exercise of the equal rights of women" (described in detail in the preceding report); instead, there is a new article 141 based on the gender approach: "Obstructing the exercise of voting rights or the work of electoral commissions", which applies equally to women's and men's rights.

The legislation of the Russian Federation still does not define in sufficient detail the legal procedures for the protection of women against discrimination. The creation of an effective machinery for the judicial and administrative protection of women's rights is one of the urgent tasks for the State authorities.

This situation is exacerbated in a considerable measure by the work overload of the regional and municipal courts, the insufficient number of judges for dealing with the case load, and the under-funding of the judicial system.

Still unresolved is the question of the establishment of a network of special courts dealing exclusively with the protection of the social and labour rights of citizens (hearing cases relating, for example, to pensions, employment, and guardianship and custodianship).

In November 1997 the State Duma adopted the "Outline of legislation to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women", which sets out the strategy for the development of Russia's legislation on the prevention of discrimination by reason of sex.

This Outline addresses the rights of men and women to an equal role in decision-making at all levels of legislative, executive and judicial power and in organs of local self-government, as well as dealing with social and labour rights, prevention of violence, security of the person, protection of reproductive health, maternity and children, and the State machinery for ensuring equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women.

Article 3

In view of the need to solve the problems of the situation of women and to secure women's advancement, and guided by the decisions of the Fourth World Conference on Women, in January 1996 the Government of the Russian Federation, in conjunction with NGOs, drafted and adopted an Outline on the advancement of women.

This Outline is based on the fact that women's rights are an inalienable part of general human rights. The full participation of women on an equal footing in political, economic, social and cultural life at the federal, regional and international levels must be the main goal of State policy for the advancement of women in the Russian Federation.

On the basis of the Outline the Government is concentrating its attention on the following very important problems of the socio-economic status of women, which are a source of fundamental concern in the context of the radical reforms taking place in Russia: non-involvement in politics, discrimination in employment, deteriorating health, and increased violence against women.

The Outline is designed to deliver real means of improving the socio-economic status of women and creating a society of equal opportunities.

Similar outlines and programmes have been drafted and adopted by the organs of executive power in a number of members of the Federation.

In order to strengthen the influence of women on decision-making at all levels, a Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On enhancing the role of women in the system of federal organs of State power and organs of State power of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation" was adopted in June 1996; it notes inter alia that the representation of women in the posts of principal and chief officer in the system of organs of power is not commensurate with their role in society, although women's participation in the adoption of important decisions of State would enhance the quality of such decisions and the effectiveness of their implementation.

Article 4

1. In accordance with the decisions of the Fourth World Conference on Women, in August 1996 the Government drafted a National Action Plan for the advancement of women and improvement of their role in society up to 2000.

The National Action Plan contains measures designed to:

- Expand the participation of women in decision-making at all levels, establish new moral rules to promote the broad involvement of women in the public and party movement, and shift the personnel policies of State agencies in the direction of achieving a more proportional presence of women in representative organs of power at all levels and in the agencies of executive power and government;

- Establish real equality of rights and opportunities for men and women in the labour market and the conditions for improving the competitiveness of the female labour force and adapting women to the new economic relations;

- Improve women's health and create the conditions for the exercise by women of their reproductive rights, safe maternity, development of the system for protecting women's reproductive health, provision of primary health services based on the specific health needs of women of various ages, and expansion of the specialized assistance for women and girls;

- Prevent violence against women and protect them against crime.

The members of the Federation are continuing to work on the formulation and implementation of action plans and programmes to improve the status of women in employment and enhance their role in society.

2. The fourth periodic report gave a detailed account of measures for the protection of maternity, including the measures established in the Labour Code of the Russian Federation as specific privileges.

In 1997 the Government introduced additional measures to protect maternity. In particular, postnatal paid leave in the event of birth complications was increased to 86 days (110 days for multiple births).

Additional specific maternity-protection measures have been adopted since 1994 for women serving sentences in institutes of correction. Article 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation (CCPRF) makes specific provision for the material needs of pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and women with children serving sentences of imprisonment. This article establishes in particular that such women may place their children aged under three years in the nursery unit of the institute of correction and spend their free time with them without restriction. They may also be authorized to have their children live in with them.

Pregnant and breastfeeding prisoners may receive supplementary food parcels in a quantity and of a kind determined by a medical evaluation (CCPRF, art. 90).

Article 130, section 4, of the CCPRF considerably expands the category of pregnant women and mothers with children aged under eight years who may not serve strict-regime sentences in prison. This privilege was previously accorded only to prisoners with suckling infants, i.e. infants up to the age of 12 months (art. 70 of the Correctional Labour Code of the RSFSR).

Article 177 of the CCPRF provides the possibility for pregnant women and mothers with young children to defer serving their sentences until the child reaches the age of eight. This provision represents a considerable expansion of the rights of women prisoners.

Article 5

The new Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (CCRF) does not contain any articles providing punishment for habits and prejudices based on notions of the inferiority or superiority of one of the sexes. In this connection the mass

media are playing a bigger part in forming opinions and conceptions as to the role and place of women in society.

The number of specialized women's newspapers and magazines almost doubled in the period 1994-1997. In 1997, 54 women's magazine titles were published in Russia (31 in 1994), with a total circulation of 94.5 million copies (32 million in 1994), and there were 24 all-Russian, republic and regional women's newspapers. The number of newspapers published for women doubled between 1994 and 1997, but their total circulation remained virtually unchanged at about 24.4 million copies.

The topic of the advancement of women crops up to one degree or another in almost all publications of a social-political or cultural-educational slant. The articles deal with questions of ensuring equal rights and opportunities for men and women in social and economic life and protecting children and mothers and women's health. Some newspapers and magazines have special sections for such topics.

However, according to expert assessments publications dealing with the determination of the role and place of women in society and the altering of stereotyped ideas about women account for no more than two per cent of all the material published. As a rule, the articles on and for women in the Russian press are either reports on criminal situations connected with violence against women or features restricted to housekeeping tips.

During the reporting period, in addition to magazines and newspapers offering lighter reading, there has emerged a number of serious publications dealing with topical issues of the development of the women's movement, the work of organs of legislative and executive power on the implementation of the strategy for enhancing the status of women, etc. These publications include the national newspaper Zhenshchiny Rossii (Women of Russia), published since 1995, the Moscow magazine Yaroslavna, established in 1996, the magazine Prava zhenshchin v Rossii (Women's Rights in Russia), published since 1998, the Kazan newspaper Zhenshchina (Woman), Orenburgskaya sudarynya (Orenburg Miss), the national weekly founded by the government of the city of Moscow Moskvicha (Moscow Woman), and a number of others.

The independent women's radio station Nadezhda (Hope) is still in operation; it specializes in reporting on the problems encountered by women and bringing them to public attention.

Article 6

Article 133 of the new CCRF (Coercion to commit sexual acts) takes a somewhat altered view of such crimes as forcing a woman to have sexual relations. It expands the content of the concept of "dependence" to include not only the material and occupational aspects but also the official, social, etc., ones.

Criminal responsibility for violating a person's rights in connection with his or her sex is dealt with in article 136 of the new CCRF, which considerably expands the range of purposes and motives of the infringement of rights set out in article 134 of the old Code, which dealt with obstruction of the exercise of

equality of rights by women. While under the old Code responsibility for the commission of a crime was triggered when the act constituted a material violation of women's equality of rights and was associated with violence or the threat of violence, article 136 of the new Code addresses the motive, which may be expressed either in an act or in an omission.

One source of concern is the increasing unlawful transport of Russian women to foreign countries for the purpose of sexual exploitation. This issue was considered in 1997 at meetings of the Security Committee of the State Duma, and seminars and consultative meetings were held with Russian and foreign experts, representatives of the relevant legislative and executive organs, and members of the public at large.

Where the legislative tools for combating the unlawful transport of women abroad and their exploitation are concerned, the CCRF establishes criminal responsibility for serious categories of such crimes, specifically in article 126 on kidnapping, article 127 on unlawful deprivation of liberty, article 131 on rape, article 132 on violent acts of a sexual nature, article 133 on coercion to commit sexual acts, article 240 on recruitment for prostitution, article 241 on the organization or maintenance of premises for prostitution, and article 322 on unlawful crossing of the State frontier of the Russian Federation.

The lack of official statistics makes it difficult to assess the scale of the traffic in women. According to information from the Federal Frontier Service for 1996 and seven months of 1997, some 4,500 women were not allowed to cross the State frontier: 4,300 of them had irregular papers, and 200 were travelling on false papers, on another person's papers, or without any papers at all. Most of these women were trying to travel to Turkey, Italy, Germany, Bulgaria, China, Finland, Latvia or Estonia. However, it cannot be concluded from this information that all the women prevented from crossing the border were destined for sale as "living goods". Most of the women subjected to sexual exploitation abroad had left the Russian Federation for lawful purposes (marriage to a foreigner, work contract, tourism).

According to information from Russia's consular offices most of the applications by female Russian citizens for consular protection and assistance in returning to Russia were made at the embassy in Greece (over 100 applications in 1997) and the general consulate in Hamburg (41 in 1997).

According to the reports of consular officers, it is usual for Russian women, citing threats by criminal elements, categorically to refuse to state in writing how they became involved in prostitution, how their exit documents were produced, etc. For this same reason, on their return to Russia they do not wish to assert their rights in court. According to the figures of the Office of the Prosecutor General, in the period 1994-1997 there was a total of four court cases connected with the traffic in women. Seven persons were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for three to 10 years.

Article 7

The Constitution of the Russian Federation does not differentiate between the voting rights of citizens by reason of their sex, nationality or race (see the fourth periodic report).

Women accounted for 10 per cent of the deputies to the second convocation of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. Sixty women were elected to the first convocation and 46 to the second. There is one woman member of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly.

The Federal Act "On implementation of the constitutional rights of citizens of the Russian Federation to elect and to be elected to organs of local self-government" was adopted in November 1996.

This Act establishes the regulations guaranteeing the exercise of the constitutional rights of citizens of the Russian Federation to elect and to be elected to the organs of local self-government of the members of the Federation which have not themselves enacted such regulations in accordance with the Constitution of the Russian Federation and the Federal Act on "General principles of the organization of local self-government in the Russian Federation".

Under the Act, deputies to representative organs of local self-government and officials holding elective office in local self-government are elected by the citizens of the Russian Federation permanently resident in the constituency in question, on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage in a secret ballot.

The right to elect such deputies and elected officials is vested in every citizen of the Russian Federation permanently resident in the constituency in question and aged at least 18 on the day of the election.

Measures to ensure the proper representation of women in the formulation and implementation of State policy were contained in the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On enhancing the role of women in the system of federal organs of State power and organs of power of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation".

The measures contained in this Decree are designed to expand the participation of women in all areas of the life of society and primarily in the management of the affairs of the State and in decision-making.

The adoption of the Decree testifies to the recognition by the President and the Government of the need for additional action to improve the status of Russian women and enhance their role in society.

At the beginning of 1997 there were 15,000 women (56.2 per cent of the entire civil service) working in State legislative, executive and judicial agencies. However, an analysis of the distribution of posts shows that most of these women were employed in posts where they were not involved in the taking of decisions.

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In the Governments of V. S. Chernomyrdin and S. V. Kirienko women were appointed to head the Ministries of Labour, Health and Culture (three out of 10 members of the Cabinet of Ministers in 1997). In the new Russian Government headed by E. M. Primakov a woman holds the post of Deputy Prime Minister responsible for social questions, but there is not a single woman among the federal ministers.

Nevertheless there is an upward trend in the number and proportion of women holding deputy minister posts. At present almost all the ministries and departments have at least one woman in the post of deputy head, and the total representation of women in posts of deputy head of federal executive agencies has reached 25 per cent.

In order to implement the Presidential Decree mentioned above and to speed up the work on the composition of the civil service staff of organs of State power, a procedure has been established for the compilation of a data bank on women federal civil servants to form a part of the civil service data bank. This work is still going on. It is possible that the new procedure will allow for the temporary application of elements of "positive discrimination". In particular, it is proposed that a compulsory ratio should be applied to the personnel placed on the promotion roster, as a means of ensuring that each sex supplies not less than 30 per cent and not more than 70 per cent of the personnel in all grades of the federal civil service.

Women may take part in the activities of NGOs and create their own associations and unions. The legislation on these matters was discussed in detail in the preceding report.

Women's NGOs and public organizations stepped up their activities in the period 1994-1997 and are now a component of the non-commercial sector of the economy. Russia currently has over 650 registered NGOs at the federal and inter-regional levels which bring women together to tackle the most difficult problems facing society, and the members of the Federation have more than 15,000 local and municipal women's organizations.

One element in the pooling of the efforts of all the participants in the process of social development is the emergence of a new phenomenon - a social partnership between State agencies and NGOs, allowing them to join forces to deal with the most complicated social problems.

The State bases its work with women's public organizations on agreements on joint activities and memorandums of understanding, and it takes part in the activities and measures conducted by the organizations, as well as holding "round tables" on various issues connected with the improvement of the status of women and the work of the organizations.

The collaboration and cooperation between State agencies and women's NGOs covers the following areas:

1. Participation in the formulation and implementation of State social policies for the improvement of the status of women, children and the family:

- Collaboration in the implementation of the presidential programme "Children of Russia" and the National Action Plan for the advancement of women and improvement of their role in society up to 2000;

- Entering of NGO programmes in competitions for inclusion in the implementation of federal programmes;

- Dissemination of information about the Outline on the advancement of women and mobilization of a public effort for its implementation;

- Identification (as they emerge) of new priorities in the implementation of policies for improving the situation of women, children and the family;

- Coordination of the efforts to implement programmes for the advancement of women in the provinces;

- Organization of national campaigns to tackle vitally important problems of the family, women and children;

- Collection of information about acts of discrimination and violence against women and development of machinery for their elimination;

- Building of public opinion in support of equality of the sexes and partnership.

2. Cooperation in dealing with the social problems of women by formulating and implementing programmes to:

- Involve women in the executive and legislative structure (preparation for elections, training of women leaders, creation of systems for the career promotion of women);

- Improve women's competitiveness in the labour market;

- Provide vocational training and retraining and opportunities for women to upgrade their qualifications in occupations offering job prospects, and expand the new organizational structures and training programmes;

- Promote the combination of work and family duties, mainly by creating favourable conditions for the development of small- and medium-sized businesses, family businesses and self-employment as alternative areas in which women can apply their labour, and encourage enterprises to introduce convenient work schedules for women with children (part-time work, flexible hours, home working);

- Improve women's knowledge of their rights and enhance their legal literacy.

3. Promotion of the development of the system of social services for women, children and the family by:

- Collaborating in the development of social agencies (social services institutions) to provide a broad range of social services, including crisis centres for women, multi-purpose centres, confidential telephone help lines, social shelters, etc;

- Creation of specialized social services (crisis centres for women, multi-purpose centres, confidential telephone help lines, social shelters, etc.).

In addition, NGOs take an active part in legislative activities and are represented in the public and expert advisory groups set up under the committees of the State Duma.

The aims of the joint activities conducted under the agreements between State agencies and NGOs are to involve the public in the implementation of measures for improving the status of women and enhancing their role in society, to carry out joint measures to tackle the social problems of young people, women and the family, to support businesses set up by women, to devise and establish in social practice new approaches to work among these population groups, to promote their employment and encourage traditional occupations and trades, to restore the economic links among the regions, and to protect Russian producers of goods.

Article 8

As noted in the fourth periodic report, the legislation of the Russian Federation does not contain any regulations which discriminate against women's right to represent the Government or the State at the international level.

The legislation and rules governing recruitment for diplomatic or other work on the central staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and establishments abroad as well as promotion and rotation within the service are based on the principle that equal demands are made on officers irrespective of their sex.

In 1998, 248 of the Ministry's 1,761 women employees held diplomatic posts. Establishments abroad employed 669 women, including 87 diplomats.

Article 9

The legislation of the Russian Federation accords women equal rights with men with regard to acquiring, changing or retaining their citizenship. Marriage to a foreigner or a change of citizenship by the husband at the time of marriage does not automatically entail a change in the wife's citizenship, does not turn her into a stateless person, and cannot serve as grounds for compelling her to adopt the husband's nationality.

The law also accords women equal rights with men with regard to the citizenship of their children. The provisions of this article were discussed in detail in the fourth periodic report.

Article 10

Equal opportunities and access to education are legally guaranteed to men and women by the Constitution of the Russian Federation and the Federal Education Act, as described in detail in the fourth periodic report.

During the reporting period Russia's general education system developed in the direction of providing support and encouragement for a variety of types and forms of education establishment. Fee-paying forms of education and private schools gained ground.

The temporary measures limiting the access of women to a number of occupations remain in force. This is because the training of workers in vocational training institutions is based on the List of Occupations meeting the State standards for vocational training. Access to certain occupations is restricted by the rule allowing the vocational training of women and minors only for occupations and work which they are allowed to perform under the existing procedures established in the Model Provision on the uninterrupted vocational and economic training of workers for the national economy, adopted in June 1988 by the State Labour Committee of the USSR, the State Committee on National Education of the USSR, and the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions.

Establishments providing initial vocational training offer privileges to women with young children: individual schedules for attendance at classes, laboratory work, tests and examinations.

The two sexes are taught together in the education institutions of the Russian Federation: they follow the same curricula and use the same textbooks, supplies and equipment; they are taught the same subjects by means of identical study and teaching methods and technical aids.

The law accords both sexes identical opportunities for obtaining scholarships and other education grants.

The financial difficulties encountered by most Russian families mean that increasing numbers of children are forced to abandon secondary general education. The members of the Federation are working on ways to ease the adverse effects of this process and create conditions that allow young people, especially girls, to remain in school. Programmes are being developed to create special classes for persons lacking elementary education in evening schools working in shifts and in a number of vocational schools.

Article 11

The right to work is guaranteed by the Constitution of the Russian Federation. The legislation prohibiting discrimination against women in recruitment for work was discussed in the fourth periodic report.

The State guarantees citizens of the Russian Federation a free choice of their type of employment, including employment with various work regimes, labour protection, and legal protection against unjustified dismissal or refusal to recruit, in accordance with the labour legislation (art. 12 of the Act "On employment in the Russian Federation").

Procedures are being prepared for offering employers economic incentives, including lower profits taxes, to encourage them to take on unemployed citizens, especially those in need of social protection.

In 1996-1997 the State employment services found jobs for about 275,000 women with minor children who were the family's sole breadwinner, and more than 30,000 such women were sent on training courses.

In 1997 the Government formulated a comprehensive federal programme to promote employment in the Russian Federation in the period 1998-2000; it contains concrete measures to encourage the employment of women:

- Promotion of jobs for single parents and parents with large families raising minor children, and for families in which both parents are registered unemployed;

- Assistance with the organization of summer holidays and with measures to improve children's health;

- Drafting and implementation of regional action plans to improve the employment status of women and enhance their role in society;

- Support for the development by the members of the Federation of a network of specialized institutions providing social services for women in difficult personal situations (crisis centres).

The federal and regional jobs promotion programmes contain special measures for women, including:

- Holding of jobs fairs;

- Introduction of social-readaptation programmes for the unemployed - "Job Seekers' Club", "Fresh Start", "Work Experience for Young People", etc;

- Retraining and upgrading the qualifications of unemployed women with young children;

- Assignment of jobs quotas for this category of the unemployed;

- Encouragement of entrepreneurism.

The employment services hold jobs and training fairs in order to give citizens additional help in finding work, expand the vacancies data bank, and improve the cooperation with employers. Some 600 of these fairs are held every year in Russia; they attract over 400,000 visitors, two thirds of them women. A quarter of the visitors are sent for job interviews.

The main purpose of the Job Seekers' Club is to teach people how to look for work. More than 760 of these clubs are currently operating in 70 regions of the Federation. Every year this programme reaches about 50,000 unemployed persons, 60 per cent of them women. On completing the programme one in three of the job seekers, in the whole of Russia, finds work.

The New Start programme is designed to reawaken the motivation to work in the long-term unemployed. It has been running since 1995. In 1996-1997 alone, more than 50,000 persons took part in the programme in 50 regions of Russia (the 1995 figure was about 8,000). On completion of the course 33 per cent of the participants find jobs, and 10 per cent join other employment-services programmes designed to increase their chances of finding work.

In order to find jobs for graduates of general education schools, vocational training schools, technical schools and higher education institutions, and for long-term unemployed young people, use is made of the "work experience" arrangements, which are based on agreements with enterprises for the temporary recruitment of young people to enable them to acquire vocational and job skills directly in the workplace. Most of the persons taking advantage of this kind of arrangement are girls.

Vocational training is one of the fundamental elements of the positive policy of finding jobs for women and improving their competitiveness in the jobs market; it is now a component of the comprehensive State policy for the advancement of women.

Vocational training for the vulnerable categories of the unemployed is being expanded; these categories include disabled women, single mothers and mothers with many children, and women with minor or disabled children. As a rule, the vocational training for these categories focuses on the possibilities of working at home.

In March 1995 the Government adopted a resolution "On organization of training for the unemployed in the principles of entrepreneurial activity" with a view to creating the conditions for the development of an entrepreneurial outlook among the unemployed and training workers for the market economy, in accordance with the federal programme of State support for small businesses in the Russian Federation.

The legal guarantee of the right of women and men to work in safe conditions is contained in the provisions of the Basic Legislation on Protection of Labour, which was amended and supplemented in 1995.

According to article 4 of this instrument every worker is entitled to protection of labour and must be given reliable information by his employer or the State or public agencies about the working conditions and protection of labour at his work station, about the existing risks of damage to his health, and about the measures taken to protect him against harmful or hazardous production factors; he is also entitled to vocational retraining at his employer's expense in the event of a suspension of the activity or the closure of the enterprise, shop or unit, the elimination of his work station because of unsatisfactory working conditions, or his loss of the capacity to work as a result of an industrial accident or occupational illness.

Women of childbearing age and persons aged under 21 are prohibited from engaging in heavy work or work in harmful or hazardous conditions (art. 6).

In August 1995 the Government adopted a resolution "On measures to improve the conditions and protection of labour" in order to upgrade the work being done on these matters. According to this resolution, the heads of organizations in

all forms of ownership must ensure strict observance at all work stations of the health and safety regulations and the relevant requirements of the legislation on protection of labour, paying special attention to the safety of the work processes, to the provision of special clothing, footwear and other means of personal protection in accordance with the established standards, and to the organization of the necessary medical care and health protection services for workers.

The means of ensuring safe working conditions are set out in the federal programme of priority measures to improve the conditions and protection of labour for the period 1995-1997. This programme has been extended to 2000.

The Government has prepared draft lists of work prohibited to women of childbearing age (15-49 years). However, there are serious obstacles to the adoption of these lists. The stricter age requirements in the regulations prohibiting women from performing specific forms of work will certainly cause female unemployment to increase. Research carried out in a number of regions has shown that with the introduction of this measure female unemployment may rise by a factor of 1.8 to 4.5.

In 1996 the State Duma adopted a Federal Act amending paragraph 1 of the Resolution of the Supreme Council of the Russian Federation "On the procedure for entry into force of the Basic Legislation on Protection of Labour"; according to this amendment, the date for the entry into force of the prohibition on the recruitment of women of childbearing age for heavy work and jobs involving hazardous working conditions was deferred from 1 July 1996 to 1 July 2000.

Work has been proceeding since 1996 on the training of women released from hazardous jobs in the principles of entrepreneurship, as provided for in the comprehensive federal programme of State support for small businesses, 1996-1997.

It must be pointed out that the measures for improving the protection of female labour are not being carried out in full and are by no means always effective. The Russian Federation has a service - Rostrudinspektsia (Russian Labour Inspectorate) - responsible for verifying compliance with the labour legislation. In 1997 alone Rostrudinspektsia carried out over 5,000 comprehensive checks on compliance with the labour legislation and the regulations on protection of female labour, during which more than 20,000 violations were identified and corrected.

Disciplinary measures were imposed on almost 18,000 officials (more than 300 were dismissed from their posts) for violations of the labour legislation, primarily the regulations applying to women.

In order to prevent violations of the labour legislation, including violations of the regulations applicable to pregnant women and women with young children, in March 1994 the President of the Russian Federation adopted a decree "On liability for violation of the labour rights of citizens", which provides inter alia for strengthening the supervision of compliance by enterprises, establishments and organizations, regardless of their form of ownership or departmental affiliation, with the legislation on labour and collective agreements.

The State is introducing additional measures to promote the use of female labour. In particular, enterprises and organizations employing mainly female labour may be given financial support in order to prevent mass dismissals of women workers.

In accordance with article 6 of the Federal Act "On State benefits for citizens with children", women are entitled to a pregnancy and childbirth allowance, which is paid during their period of pregnancy and childbirth leave for 70 calendar days before delivery (84 days in the event of a multiple pregnancy) and for 70 calendar days after delivery (80 days in the event of childbirth complications, or 110 days if two or more babies are delivered).

The pregnancy and childbirth allowance is paid to working women in the amount of their average earnings (income) from their job, to unemployed women in the amount of the minimum wage, and to students taking study leave from their jobs and attending institutions of initial, secondary or higher vocational education or institutions of post-graduate vocational education in the amount of their study grant.

The Federal Act amending and supplementing the Act of the Russian Federation "On employment in the Russian Federation" made changes in the system of social benefits for persons dependent for their maintenance on unemployed citizens.

Supplementary unemployment benefits are paid for each dependant in a clearly defined amount: 50 per cent of the minimum wage for each dependant, up to a maximum of 150 per cent of the minimum wage. If both the parents are unemployed, the supplementary dependant's allowance is paid to each of them (previously, the supplementary children's allowance was paid to only one of them).

Under this Employment Act, the material support for unemployed women is provided from the State Employment Fund. During nine months of 1997, 27 billion roubles were allocated for these purposes.

In October 1997 the Russian Federation ratified ILO Convention No. 156 concerning Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment for Men and Women Workers: Workers with Family Responsibilities. Work is currently proceeding on amendments and supplements to the labour legislation of the Russian Federation in order to incorporate the basic provisions of the Convention.

Article 12

In 1996-1997 the Russian Federation adopted laws on the protection of the health of pregnant women: the allowance paid to women registering with a medical institution in the early stages of pregnancy has been increased to the level of the minimum wage; and pregnancy and childbirth leave in cases of multiple pregnancy has been increased by 14 days. The Labour Code of the Russian Federation establishes the right of pregnant women to go for medical tests during working hours without loss of pay.

In order that the population may exercise the right to free medical care, the Ministry of Health has formulated a federal programme on State guarantees of

free medical care and standard medical care for children, pregnant women, and women who have recently given birth; this care covers a range of pathologies.

The rights of families with respect to protection of their health have been consolidated by the Principles of State social policy for improving the situation of children, introduced in January 1996 by a resolution of the Government "On the Action Plan to improve the situation of children in the Russian Federation", and by the National Action Plan for the advancement of women and improvement of their role in society up to 2000; both these documents contain concrete measures on the exercise of the rights of families.

The State family planning service is undergoing intensive development; it provides information and medical services on all matters connected with the planning of the births of children and prevention of unwanted pregnancies, as well as consultations on the reproductive health of men and women.

A State programme is being developed for the transfer of medical care to family doctors. Families have the right to choose their doctor, who provides medical care in the home.

The machinery for implementing the Fundamental Directions of State family policy with respect to the protection of the health of mothers and children are set out in the special-purpose State programmes "Safe maternity", "Family planning" and "Disabled children", which form part of the presidential programme "Children of Russia", adopted in August 1994 by a presidential decree. This programme was extended to 2000 by a governmental resolution in September 1997 and by a presidential decree in January 1998.

The federal programmes are designed to protect, maintain and improve the health of women and children, to provide social support for mothers and children, to reduce the incidence of abortion and the maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rates, and to prevent disabilities among children.

Effective modern methods are being introduced under these programmes to prevent unwanted pregnancies and train personnel for the family planning service, and efforts are being made to improve the system of sex education in schools and develop an information base on questions of reproductive health.

Planned work is being done on the standardization of technology in the provision of medical care for children and mothers.

Advanced family-oriented perinatal arrangements are being introduced: family-based preparation of pregnant women for childbirth; attendance of the husband and other family members at the birth; unrestricted visiting by relatives in maternity units; allowing mothers to keep their babies with them; earlier initiation of breastfeeding; and early discharge (on the fifth day).

Maternity hospitals are being reorganized in order to create the best possible facilities for the resuscitation and intensive care of new-born babies.

The work on expansion of the antenatal diagnosis of the condition of the foetus by the medical genetics service was continued in the period 1994-1997. At present Russia has more than 70 medical genetics consultation offices and centres.

During the period of operation of the federal programmes "Safe maternity", "Family planning" and "Disabled children" the members of the Federation established 200 family planning and reproductive health centres, 61 perinatal centres, and 14 teaching hospitals; medical genetics centres and rehabilitation departments for children and adolescents were established in the main regional hubs; the first sanatorium for the treatment of disorders of the reproductive system in adolescent girls was set up at the republic level, etc. More than 130 regional centres have been provided with the necessary organizational techniques, ultrasound and endoscopic equipment, and information and methodological technology.

The measures carried out under these programmes have produced a welcome downturn in the number of abortions and stabilized the maternal and infant mortality rates (see part I of this report).

The Basic Legislation on Health Care specifies family rights with regard to health care, including the right to free consultations (on medical grounds) on family planning matters, socially significant diseases and diseases representing a threat to other people, and on the medical and psychological aspects of conjugal relations, as well as on the right to medical genetics consultations and other consultations and tests.

The Family Code of the Russian Federation provides for pre-marital medical checks and consultations on matters of medical genetics and family planning.

Families with children are entitled to the health benefits established by the legislation of the Russian Federation, including free medical prescriptions for children aged under three years (six years if the family is poor), special milk products for children in the first two years of life, the provision of additional living space and social benefits in connection with a number of diseases, and free travel for treatment.

One of the parents or another family member designated by the parents is entitled to remain with a child in hospital, in the interests of his treatment, throughout his stay irrespective of the child's age.

One of the parents or another family member receives an allowance for periods spent by a child in an isolation ward and periods of out-patient and in-patient treatment.

The fourth periodic report described in detail the problems connected with the increasing number of abortions in the Russian Federation. It was noted that the artificial termination of pregnancy is allowed by law and is carried out up to the twelfth week of pregnancy at the woman's wish, up to the twenty-second week on social grounds, and regardless of the stage of the pregnancy on medical grounds and with the woman's consent.

The artificial termination of pregnancy is carried out under compulsory medical insurance in institutions licensed for this purpose by doctors with special qualifications.

The question of the termination of pregnancy on social grounds is decided in an out-patient polyclinic or a hospital by a panel consisting of an

obstetrician, the head of the institution or department and, at the written request of the woman, a lawyer, on the basis of the obstetrician's opinion as to the stage of the pregnancy and the relevant legal documents confirming the social grounds.

The Government has issued a list of the social grounds for artificial termination of pregnancy. These grounds include a husband's disability in group I-II, death of the husband during the pregnancy, detention of the woman or her husband in a place of imprisonment, registered unemployed status of the husband or wife, a court decision removing or restricting parental rights, dissolution of the marriage during the pregnancy, pregnancy resulting from rape, lack of living accommodation, residence in a hostel or in part of a private apartment, existing large family (three or more children), existing disabled child in the family, absence of the husband, refugee or displaced person status, and per capita family income below the subsistence level fixed for the region in question.

The Basic Legislation on Health Care and article 163.1 of the Labour Code provide for four additional days off with pay for the purpose of caring for disabled children or persons disabled from childhood until they reach the age of 18. These days are accorded per calendar month to one of the working parents or a guardian or custodian at his or her request.

If one of the working parents does not take all four days in a calendar month, the other working parent may take the outstanding days in the same month.

One of the priority tasks is to combat HIV infections, among women as well as men. This was the reason for the formulation and funding of the special-purpose federal programme to combat AIDS/HIV in the period 1996-2000. The Government is at present preparing a draft resolution "On urgent measures to prevent the spread of HIV infection". A new federal programme "On measures to expand oncological treatment" is also being prepared; it contains measures tailored to the programme goals of the work on the maintenance of women's health. The special-purpose federal programme "Urgent measures to combat tuberculosis in Russia, 1998-2000" was adopted in June 1998.

Article 13

The system for supporting families with children in place up to 1995 was described in detail in the fourth periodic report.

The legislation of the Russian Federation provides for material assistance for families with children. Under the Federal Act "On State benefits for citizens with children" a single monthly State allowance is awarded and paid in respect of each child, instead of the former range of separate benefits and allowances, from the funds of the members of the Federation.

This Act establishes the following State benefits:

- Pregnancy and childbirth allowance;

- One-off payment to women registering with a medical institution in the early days of pregnancy;

- One-off payment on the birth of the child;

- Monthly allowance for the period of leave to care for a child up to the age of eight and a half years;

- Monthly child allowance.

The procedures for the award and payment of these State benefits are established by the Government.

The entitlement to the one-off payment on the birth of the child (or on adoption of a child aged under three months) is held by one of the parents or a substitute.

According to article 16 of the Act, the entitlement to the monthly child allowance is held by one of the parents (or an adoptive parent, guardian or custodian) in respect of each child born, adopted or taken into guardianship or custodianship and living with that parent or person until the child reaches the age of 16 years (in the case of students attending a general education school, until they complete their courses but not beyond their eighteenth birthday).

As already pointed out, these allowances are paid from the funds of the members of the Federation and are included in the basis for calculation of the financial assistance (transfers) to be paid to the regions from the federal budget through the Federal Financial Support Fund. Under this procedure the use of the allocated funds is determined by the members of the Federation independently in the light of the measures scheduled in their budgets.

The large budgetary arrears of tax revenue at all levels, the defects of the system for the award and payment of State benefits to persons with families, the failure to discharge responsibilities, and the slackening of control over the prompt payment of these benefits by the members of the Federation are the main reasons for the accumulation of arrears of payment, which amounted to 15.5 trillion roubles on 1 December 1997.

In connection with the defects in the machinery for the award and payment of these benefits the Government adopted a resolution amending the procedure for the award and payment of the monthly child allowance: as of 1 January 1998 responsibility for the award and payment of this allowance was transferred from enterprises and organizations to the local social security agencies; this will make it possible to put the benefits payment system in order.

Because the arrears in the payment of benefits have their most powerful effect on poor population groups the State Duma amended the Federal Act "On State benefits for citizens with children" so as to link payment of the child allowance to the family's per capita income.

With a view to improving the social protection of children in poor families, in August 1998 the President of the Federation issued a Decree "On urgent measures to ensure the payment of the monthly child allowance", which establishes an order of priority for such payments in the light of the need for special measures of social protection for poor families with children, as well

as recommending that the arrears should be made good as a matter of priority to families with incomes below the subsistence level.

Article 14

The fourth periodic report discussed in detail the legislation prohibiting discrimination against women living and working in rural areas, who totalled 21 million in Russia in 1997.

Working and living conditions remain much harder in the countryside than in the town. This is reflected in the higher death rates among rural women. For example, in the 1990s (1990-1997) the death rate for rural dwellers of working age rose by 30 per cent, and for women by 22 per cent. The average life expectancy of rural women was 71.8 years in 1997, one year less than for urban women.

The incidence of occupational illness remains high among women; the commonest problems are those affecting the skeletal and locomotor systems and the respiratory organs, and brucellosis, etc. These problems affect women working with livestock most of all: milkers, pig farmers and veterinarians, as well as women working with toxic chemicals. The proportion of unqualified manual labour is increasing, especially on small farms, and this is having a further adverse effect on the health of rural women.

Rural areas account for about 30 per cent of total registered unemployment in Russia; women make up 63 per cent of this figure, and 36 per cent of such women are aged under 30. One distinctive feature of female unemployment in rural areas is that the periods are longer and more persistent. The average duration of unemployment is 7.3 months for the whole of Russia, but 8.2 months in the countryside. The proportion of women registered as unemployed for more than eight months is over 42.9 per cent, as against 41.2 per cent for the whole country.

Poor job prospects and worsening living conditions are producing a sharp decline in the attractions of working on a small farm for young people, and for rural girls in particular.

In order to enable women to cope more effectively with the reforms in the agrarian sector the Ministry of Agriculture is carrying out a set of measures to improve their competitiveness in the labour market.

In recent years agricultural institutes of higher education have introduced courses in 25 new subjects, including 12 of special relevance to farming (finance and credit, management, law, agrarian law, agro-ecology, technology of the preservation and processing of plant products, etc.), while enrolment for economic subjects, traditionally regarded as women's subjects, has increased by 65 per cent.

The list of occupations for which training is provided in vocational training schools and agro-industrial secondary schools has been revised. Many of them offer courses in the integrated occupation of "farm housekeeping", based on farm book-keeping. Students also acquire skills and knowledge in the operation of milking machinery, cooking, sewing, etc.

Women account for 46.6 per cent of students in higher education institutions training managerial staff for agriculture, 43.2 per cent in technical institutions, 22 per cent in all forms of training and upgrading of qualifications, and 44 per cent in institutions of the system for upgrading qualifications.

The All-Russian Movement of Rural Women was established and is now working to protect the interests of women in agriculture, drawing its membership from women farmers, women holding subsidiary private plots, the rural intelligentsia, etc.

The Russian Union of Rural Women was founded in 1998 in order to protect the interests of women living in rural areas and working in the agricultural industry by means of collaboration in the solution of the problems of improving the production of goods and social welfare and by protecting mothers and children.

Article 15

In accordance with the Act of the Russian Federation "On the procedure for complaint to the courts concerning unlawful acts and decisions violating the rights and freedoms of citizens", adopted in April 1993, every citizen is entitled to lodge a complaint with the courts if he considers that his rights and freedoms have been violated by an unlawful act or decision of a State agency, organ of local self-government, establishment or enterprise and their associations, public association or official, or State employee (art. 1).

Such complaints may relate to collective and individual acts or decisions, including the provision of official information, as a result of which:

- The rights and freedoms of a citizen are infringed;
- Obstacles are created to the exercise by a citizen of his rights and freedoms;
- Any obligation is unlawfully imposed on a citizen or he unlawfully incurs some kind of liability.

Citizens are also entitled to complain about the omissions listed in the first section of article 15 if such an omission results in one of the consequences also listed there.

Every citizen is entitled to have the opportunity, and officials and State employees are obliged to offer him such an opportunity, to study documents and other materials directly affecting his rights and freedoms, provided that federal law establishes no restrictions on the information contained in the documents and other materials.

Article 16

The Family Code of the Russian Federation was adopted in 1995; it provides the protection of the State for the family, maternity, paternity and childhood.

Pursuant to article 3 of the Code, family relations are regulated in accordance with the principles of the voluntary nature of the union of a man and a woman in marriage, the equality of rights of the spouses in the family, the resolution of family problems by mutual consent, priority for raising children in the family, care for their welfare and development, and priority protection for the rights and interests of minors and of family members incapable of working.

The family rights of citizens may be restricted only by federal law and only to the extent necessary for the protection of the moral well-being, health, rights and legitimate interests of other members of the family and of other citizens.

For the first time in Russia, the Code establishes the marriage contract as a form of the relationship between spouses. Under article 40 an agreement between the parties to the marriage or an agreement between spouses is recognized as a marriage contract defining the property rights and the duties of the spouses during the marriage and/or in the event of its dissolution.

Under article 42 a marriage contract may be concluded with regard to both existing and future property of the spouses.

The spouses are entitled to define in the contract their rights and duties with respect to reciprocal maintenance, the means of contributing to each other's income, and the arrangements for each of them to bear part of the family expenditure; they are also entitled to specify the property to be transferred to each of them in the event of dissolution of the marriage and to include in the contract any other provisions relating to the property relations between the spouses.

Pursuant to article 16 of the Code a marriage may be terminated by dissolution on the application of one or both spouses. Without the wife's consent the husband is not entitled to initiate dissolution proceedings while she is pregnant or for one year after the birth of a child (art. 17).

The Code spells out clearly the anti-discrimination rules relating to the equal rights of parents in the resolution of issues affecting their children.

Parents have equal rights and responsibilities with respect to their children (art. 61) and have a duty to attend to their children's upbringing and development. They must care for the health and for the physical, psychological, spiritual and moral development of their children (art. 63).

All issues connected with the upbringing and education of their children must be resolved by the parents by mutual accord in accordance with the interests of the children and after hearing their views. In the event of a disagreement, the parents (or one of them) are entitled to refer the disagreement for settlement to a guardianship or custodianship agency or to a court (art. 65).

Under the Family Code matters of the maternity, paternity, upbringing and education of the children and other matters of family life are decided jointly

by the spouses on the basis of the principle of the equality of the spouses (art. 31).

Pursuant to article 31 each spouse is free to choose his or her employment, occupation, place of residence and accommodation. Spouses are obliged to build their relations in the family on foundations of mutual respect and mutual assistance, to work for the well-being and consolidation of the family, and to attend to the welfare and development of their children.

At their discretion, on marriage the spouses may choose the surname of one of them as the family name, or each spouse may retain his or her own single name, or, unless the laws of the members of the Federation provide otherwise, each may add the other's surname to his or her own surname (art. 32).

Under article 34 property acquired by the spouses during the marriage is owned by them jointly.

Property acquired by the spouses during the marriage (their common property) includes the income of each spouse from work, business activities and the results of intellectual work, any pensions and allowances which they receive, and any other cash payments which are not made for a special purpose (sums received as material assistance, sums received in compensation for loss of the capacity to work as a result of a physical injury or in compensation for any other damage to health, etc.). The common property of the spouses also includes moveable and immoveable things, securities, shares, deposits, and participations in capital acquired from the common income of the spouses and placed with a savings and loan institution or some other commercial organization, and any other property acquired by the spouses during the marriage regardless of the name in which it is acquired or of the name in which or by whom cash money is placed.

Entitlement to the common property of the spouses is also held by a spouse who runs the household during the marriage, cares for the children or for other valid reasons does not have an independent income.

The rights of spouses to own, use and dispose of property owned jointly by the members of a small farm are defined in articles 257 and 258 of the Civil Code.

Disputes arising between spouses over the division of their common property or over payments for the maintenance of a needy spouse who is not capable of working, as well as disputes over children, are heard by the courts regardless of whether the marriage has been dissolved by a civil registry office (art. 20).

The legislation of the Russian Federation establishes the age of marriage at 18 years. If valid grounds exist, the organs of local self-government in the place where the State registry of marriages is located may, at the request of the parties wishing to marry, authorize a marriage between persons who have reached the age of 16 years.

The procedures and conditions for the authorization, by way of exception and on the grounds of special circumstances, of a marriage between persons

aged 16 but under 18 may be established by the laws of the members of the Federation (art. 13).

If a marriage is concluded without authorization with a person who has not reached the age of marriage, the under-age spouse, his or her parents (or their deputies), a guardianship or custodianship agency, or the public prosecutor are entitled to request that the marriage be declared void (art. 28).

III. CONCLUSION

A. Progress in the advancement of women

1. The socio-economic changes in the Russian Federation in 1994-1998 contributed to the establishment of some elements of the market economic model, the formation of a non-State sector in the economy, and the emergence of new relations in the labour market. This period witnessed big social changes - the introduction of the principle of insurance in health care, and the expansion of the non-State sector in the provision of social services and a range of services paid for directly by the consumer. All of this extended the possibilities for self-realization, delivered freedom of choice for all citizens of Russia and indeed for women, and established a variety of forms of participation by women in the social, occupational, political and public spheres of life.

2. In 1994-1998 the Russian Federation, within the limits of its existing resources, introduced legislative and administrative measures to improve the status of women, protect their rights and interests, and cushion the impact of the critical social situation. The adoption of legislation specifically intended to ensure the exercise by women of their constitutional rights and create equal opportunities for men and women was a result of the democratization and socialization of society.

This period saw the adoption of a number of presidential decrees designed to improve the status of women in society and enhance their role in decision-making at all levels; the State Duma adopted an Outline of legislation to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women, and the Government adopted an Outline on the advancement of women in the Russian Federation, the National Action Plan for the advancement of women and improvement of their role in society up to 2000, etc. The adoption of these instruments gave a boost to the introduction of measures to tackle the most acute socio-economic problems of women, both at the federal level and in the members of the Federation.

3. One feature of the period 1994-1998 was the significant expansion of the role of the organs of legislative and executive power of the members of the Federation in the implementation of measures for the advancement of women in all areas of life and to prohibit discrimination by reason of sex. The efforts of organs of local self-government to solve concrete problems of the implementation of social policy took on special importance in this period. The members of the Federation developed special programmes to tackle the social problems of women, children and the family, promote the employment of women, protect their health, ensure exercise of their reproductive rights, etc.

4. In 1994-1998 the basic national machinery was established to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women and eliminate discrimination against women; this machinery covers all the branches of power in the Russian Federation, including presidential, legislative and executive power, both at the federal level and at the level of the members of the Federation. The activities of federal and regional agencies responsible for solving the problems of women, children and the family underwent considerable expansion.

During the reporting period the holding of national conferences to devise a strategy and tactics for the activities for the advancement of women became an important element in the national machinery.

5. There was a big increase in the work of women's NGOs and public associations, which have become a component of the non-commercial sector of the economy. The period 1994-1998 witnessed both an increase in their number and in the forms and variety of their activities. A new phenomenon - a social partnership between State agencies and NGOs - became a factor in the consolidation of the activities of all the participants in the process of social development and it facilitated the pooling of efforts to tackle the most difficult social problems.

6. In order to support women finding themselves in difficult circumstances, including victims of violence, the Russian Federation created and is developing a network of agencies providing social services for women and children. This network expanded from 107 to 2,079 units between 1994 and 1998.

By the beginning of 1998 six State crisis centres offering assistance to women were in operation; in 1997 almost 2,000 women and over 1,500 families were helped. In addition, Russia also has help centres for women victims of violence; they are run by NGOs and work in close contact with the relevant State services.

7. The family planning service continued to expand in 1994-1998; its activities are designed to protect, maintain and improve women's health and prevent disabilities among children. The service is working to improve the system of sex education in schools.

The ongoing programme measures have produced lower infant and maternal mortality rates. The number of self-induced abortions has fallen by almost a quarter.

B. The persisting obstacles

1. The economic reforms carried out in Russia in 1994-1998 led to a substantial socio-economic stratification of women and to differentiation of their living standards.

In 1997 about 7 per cent of the Russian women who had had access to financial and other kinds of resources at the beginning of the 1990s had an income from property or from business activities placing them in the wealthiest population group.

Some 60 per cent of Russian women had no part in the distribution of financial and loan resources. They constitute the group of hired workers whose wages are the main and sometimes the only source of their income, which is only just above the subsistence level.

About 30 per cent of Russian women are unemployed and poor and live alone; they need concrete forms of social support. The incomes of this category of the population are in many cases limited to the available social benefits, and most of them live below the poverty line.

The inadequate access of women to financial, lending and property institutions and to property and land at the beginning of the market transformations, the exclusion of women in practical terms from participation in privatization, and the process of squeezing them out from the high-income branches of the economy are making it more difficult for women to adapt to market conditions and significantly impairing their practical exercise of the equal opportunities embodied in the legislation of the Russian Federation.

2. The role of women in decision-making remains insignificant at all levels. Their representation in senior State posts is incommensurate with their real contribution to the process of social development.

3. Elements of discrimination by reason of sex persist in employment. There are practices in the recruitment and dismissal of women, especially pregnant women, which infringe the legislation of the Russian Federation. More than 12 per cent of working women are employed at work stations which do not meet the health and safety standards.

4. Another source of concern is the substantial deterioration in the socio-economic situation of rural women, who are suffering the impact of the crisis in the farming sector.

5. Women's health is deteriorating despite the action which is being taken. There have been increases in the number of women suffering from tuberculosis and infected with HIV.

6. Cruelty and violence towards women, especially routine violence in the family, remains a serious problem. Every year 14,000 Russian women die at the hands of their husbands or other relatives. Sociological surveys show that 30 per cent of married women are regularly subjected to physical violence. The situation is exacerbated by the lack of statistics and indeed by the attitude of the agencies of law and order to this problem, for they view such violence not as a crime but as "a private matter" between the spouses.

7. The scale of the unlawful transport of Russian women to foreign countries for sexual exploitation continues to grow. The solution of this problem lies in the sphere of the battle against organized crime. The curtailment of this traffic in women will require a pooling of efforts both by the countries of origin of the "living goods" and by the countries to which the women are transported, where their sexual exploitation in fact takes place.

ANNEX I

LEGISLATION AFFECTING WOMEN USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE REPORT
(Unless stated otherwise, the legislation is "of the Russian Federation")

1. Constitution (12 December 1993).

2. Civil Code, part I (30 November 1994, No. 51-F3) and part II (26 January 1996, No. 14-F3).

3. Family Code (29 December 1995, No. 223-F3).

4. Labour Code (9 December 1971).

5. Criminal Code (13 June 1996, No. 63-F3).

6. Code of Criminal Procedure (8 January 1997, No. 1-F3).

7. Code of Civil Procedure (11 June 1964).

8. Basic Legislation on Protection of Health (22 July 1993, No. 5487-1).

9. Basic Legislation on Protection of Labour (6 August 1993, No. 5600-1).

10. Act of the RSFSR "On State pensions" (20 November 1990, No. 340-1).

11. Act of the RSFSR "On employment" (19 April 1991, No. 1033-1).

12. Act of the RSFSR "On citizenship" (28 November 1991, No. 1948-1).

13. Act "On education" (10 July 1992, No. 3266-1).

14. Act "On refugees" (19 February 1993, No. 4528-1).

15. Act "On displaced persons" (19 February 1993, No.4530-1).

16. Act (2 April 1993, No. 4741-1) amending and supplementing the Act of the RSFSR "On medical insurance".

17. Act "On the procedure for complaint to the courts concerning acts and decisions violating the rights and freedoms of citizens" (27 April 1993, No. 4866-1).

18. Act (17 June 1993, No. 5206-1) amending and supplementing the Act of the RSFSR "On citizenship".

19. Act (4 August 1994, No. 12-F3) amending and supplementing the Act of the RSFSR "On State pensions".

20. Act (11 August 1994, No. 26-F3) amending and supplementing the Act of the RSFSR "On privatization of the housing stock".

21. Act (22 December 1994, No. 73-F3) amending and supplementing the Marriage and Family Code of the RSFSR.

22. Act (15 February 1995, No. 14-F3) amending and supplementing article 163. of the Labour Code of the RSFSR.

23. Act "On information, information technology and protection of information (20 February 1995, No. 24-F3).

24. Act (6 February 1995, No. 13-F3) amending the Act "On citizenship".

25. Act (7 March 1995, No. 26-F3) amending and supplementing the Marriage and Family Code of the RSFSR, the Criminal Code of the RSFSR, the Code of Criminal Procedure of the RSFSR, and the Administrative Offences Code of the RSFSR.

26. Act "On prevention of the spread of diseases caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV infection)" (30 March 1995, No. 38-F3).

27. Act "On maintenance of the status of State and municipal education institutions and moratorium on their privatization" (16 May 1995, No. 74-F3).

28. Act "On State benefits for families with children" (19 May 1995, No. 81-F3), as subsequently amended and supplemented.

29. Act "On State support for young people's and children's public organizations" (28 June 1995, No. 98-F3).

30. Act "On detainment of criminal suspects" (15 July 1995, No. 103-F3).

31. Act (18 July 1995, No. 109-F3) amending and supplementing the Basic Legislation on Protection of Labour.

32. Act "On the foundations of the civil service of the Russian Federation" (31 July 1995, No. 119-F3).

33. Act "On social services for the elderly and the disabled" (2 August 1995, No. 122-F3).

34. Act "On charitable activities and charitable organizations" (11 August 1995, No. 135-F3).

35. Act (24 August 1995, No. 152-F3) amending and supplementing certain federal legislation in connection with the adoption of the Act "On State benefits for families with children".

36. Act "On social protection of the disabled" (24 November 1995, No. 181-F3).

37. Act (24 November 1995, No. 182-F3) amending and supplementing the Labour Code.

38. Act "On the foundations of the social services system" (10 December 1995, No. 195-F3).

39. Act (10 December 1995, No. 202-F3) amending and supplementing the Act "On displaced persons".

40. Act (20 December 1995, No. 2060-F3) supplementing article 73 of the Act of the RSFSR "On State pensions".

41. Act "On non-commercial organizations" (12 January 1996, No. 7-F3).

42. Act (13 January 1996, No. 12-F3) amending and supplementing the Act of the RSFSR "On education".

43. Act (20 April 1996, No. 36-F3) amending and supplementing the Act "On employment".

44. Act "On public associations" (19 May 1996, No. 82-F3).

45. Act "On national cultural autonomy" (17 June 1996, No. 74-F3).

46. Act (18 June 1996, No. 76-F3) supplementing the Act "On State benefits for citizens with children".

47. Act "On the foundations of State regulation of the socio-economic development of the northern regions of the Russian Federation" (19 June 1996, No. 78-F3).

48. Act (2 July 1996, No. 84-F3) amending paragraph 1 of the Resolution of the Supreme Council of the Russian Federation "On the procedure for entry into force of the Basic Legislation on Protection of Labour".

49. Act "On compensatory payments for meals for pupils in State and municipal general education schools and in institutions of initial vocational and secondary vocational education" (1 August 1996, No. 107-F3).

50. Act "On the procedures for leaving and entering the Russian Federation (15 August 1996, No. 114-F3).

51. Act (21 August 1996, No. 124-F3) amending and supplementing the Code of Civil Procedure of the RSFSR.

52. Act "On higher and postgraduate vocational training" (22 August 1996, No. 125-F3).

53. Act (24 November 1996, No. 131-F3) amending and supplementing the Labour Code.

54. Act (24 November 1996, No. 130-F3) amending the Act "On State benefits for citizens with children".

55. Act "On additional guarantees of the social protection of orphans and children deprived of parental care (21 December 1996, No. 159-F3).

56. Act (21 December 1996, No. 160-F3) amending and supplementing the Code of Criminal Procedure of the RSFSR and the Correctional Labour Code of the RSFSR in connection with the adoption of the Criminal Code.

57. Act (28 June 1997, No. 95-F3) amending and supplementing the Act "On refugees".

58. Act "On freedom of beliefs and on religious associations" (26 September 1997, No. 125-F3).

59. Act "On the subsistence level" (24 October 1997, No. 134-F3).

60. Act "On ratification of the Convention on Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment for Men and Women Workers: Workers with Family Responsibilities" (30 October 1997, No. 137-F3).

61. Act (25 June 1998, No. 90-F3) amending and supplementing the Code of Civil Procedure.

62. Presidential Decree "On preventing neglect of minors and violation of their rights and on protection of their rights" (6 September 1993, No. 1338).

63. Presidential Decree "On the Presidential Commission on Women, the Family and Demography" (15 November 1993, No. 1908).

64. Presidential Decree "On improvement of the system of State benefits and increase of their amounts" (10 December 1993, No. 2122).

65. Presidential Decree "On liability for violation of the labour rights of citizens" (10 March 1994, No. 458).

66. Presidential Decree "On increasing the amounts of compensatory payments to specific categories of citizen" (30 May 1994, No. 1110).

67. Presidential Decree "On the presidential programme 'Children of Russia'" (18 August 1994, No. 1696).

68. Presidential Decree "On compensatory payments for families with children, students and other categories of person" (23 February 1995, No. 198).

69. Presidential Decree "On confirmation of the Fundamental Directions of State social policy to improve the situation of children in Russia up to 2000 (National Action Plan for Children)" (14 September 1995, No. 942).

70. Presidential Decree "On extension of the presidential programme 'Children of Russia'" (19 February 1996, No. 210).

71. Presidential Decree "On the special-purpose federal programme 'Development of the Oryelnok and Okean national children's centres in 1996-2000'" (1 April 1996, No. 469).

72. Presidential Decree "On measures to improve the social security of students in institutes of initial vocational education and in special secondary

schools for industrial training, and to reorganize the system of initial vocational education" (20 April 1996, No. 569).

73. Presidential Decree "On the Fundamental Directions of State policy for the family" (14 May 1996, No. 712).

74. Presidential Decree "On increasing social support for single mothers and large families" (8 June 1996, No. 851).

75. Presidential Decree "On the National Action Plan for the advancement of women and improvement of their role in society up to 2000" (18 June 1996, No. 932).

76. Presidential Decree "On enhancing the role of women in the system of federal organs of State power and organs of State power of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation" (30 June 1996, No. 1005).

77. Presidential Decree "On the special-purpose federal programmes 'Prevention of the neglect of minors and violation of their rights' and 'Development of social services for families and children' for 1997-1998" (18 September 1996, No. 1367).

78. Presidential Decree "On the reform of housing and community services" (28 April 1997, No. 425).

79. Presidential Decree "On confirmation of the regulations on the procedure for granting political asylum" (21 July 1997, No. 746).

80. Governmental Resolution "On new standards for the maximum permissible limits on the manual lifting and shifting of heavy objects by women" (6 February 1993, No. 105).

81. Governmental Resolution "On the federal programme 'Children of Russia'" (9 September 1993, No. 909).

82. Governmental Resolution "On State support for the development of the medical industry and improvement of the supply of drugs and other medical products for the people and for health institutions" (30 July 1994, No. 890).

83. Governmental Resolution "On measures to prevent and curtail uncontrolled emigration" (8 September 1994, No. 1021).

84. Governmental Resolution "On confirmation of the model regulation on institutes of secondary vocational training (special secondary education establishments)" (14 October 1994, No. 1168).

85. Governmental Resolution "On confirmation of the procedure for the award and payment of monthly compensatory allowances to specific categories of citizen" (3 November 1994, No. 1206).

86. Governmental Resolution "On development of the presidential programme 'Children of Russia' 1996-1997" (25 November 1994, No. 1299).

116. Governmental Resolution "On the special-purpose federal programmes to improve the situation of children in the Russian Federation, 1998-2000" (19 September 1997, No. 1207).

117. Governmental Resolution "On measures to stabilize and develop health care and medical science" (5 November 1997, No. 1387).

118. Governmental Resolution "On the special-purpose federal programme to promote employment for 1998-2000" (24 July 1998, No. 828).

119. Governmental Resolution "On the special-purpose federal programme on urgent measures to combat tuberculosis for 1998-2000" (11 June 1998, No. 582).

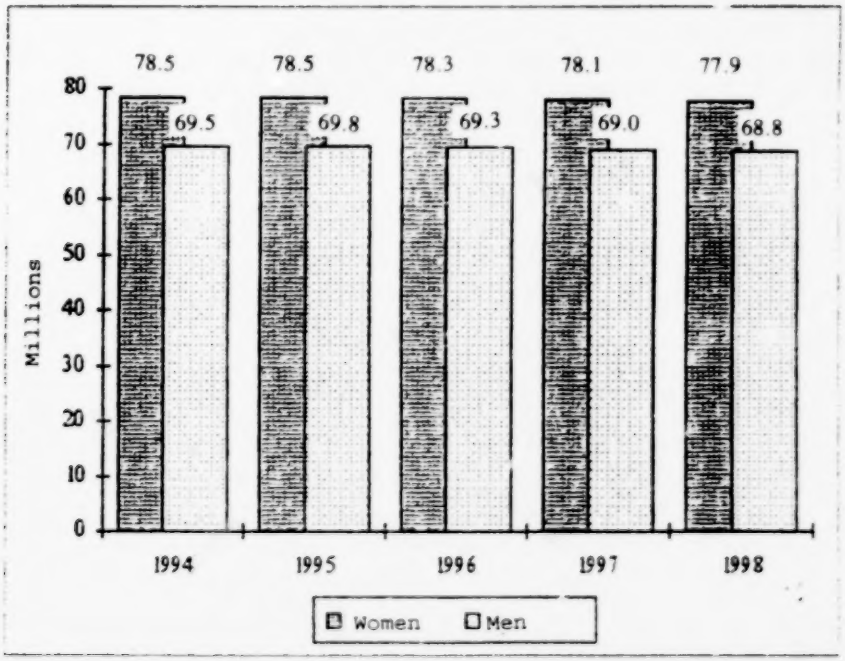
120. Resolution of the State Duma "On the Outline of legislation to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women" (20 November 1997, No. 1929-II-GD).

121. Resolution of the State Labour Committee of the USSR and the Presidium of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions "On the list of industries, occupations and work involving strenuous and hazardous working conditions in which female labour is prohibited" (25 July 1978, No. 240/P10-3).

122. Resolution of the State Labour Committee of the USSR, the Committee on National Education of the USSR, and the Presidium of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions "On the model regulation on the uninterrupted vocational and economic training of personnel for the national economy" (15 June 1988, No. 369/92-14-147/20/18-22).

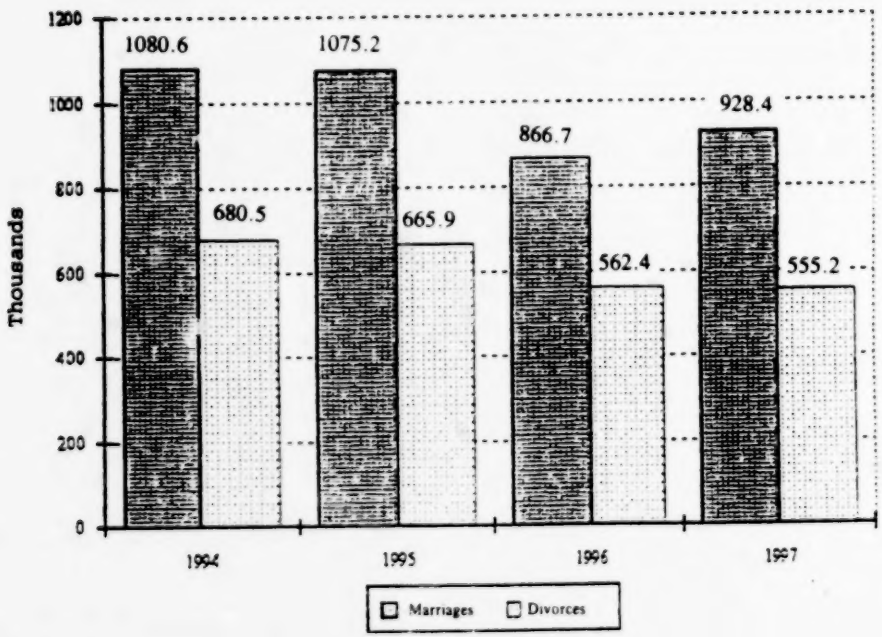
ANNEX II

Numbers of men and women
(at beginning of year)



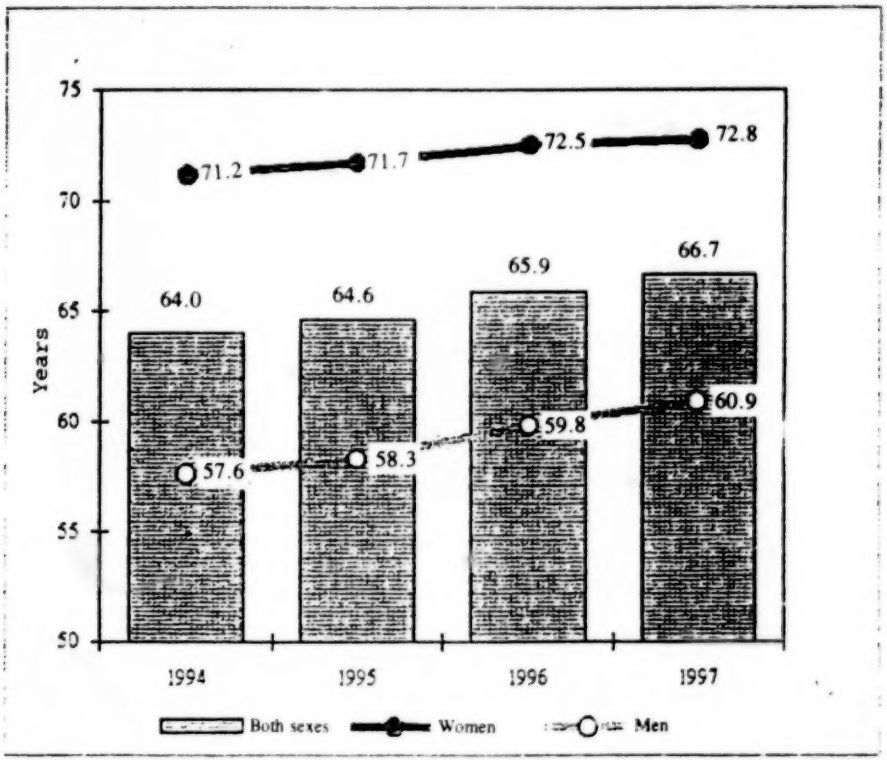
ANNEX III

Marriages and divorces



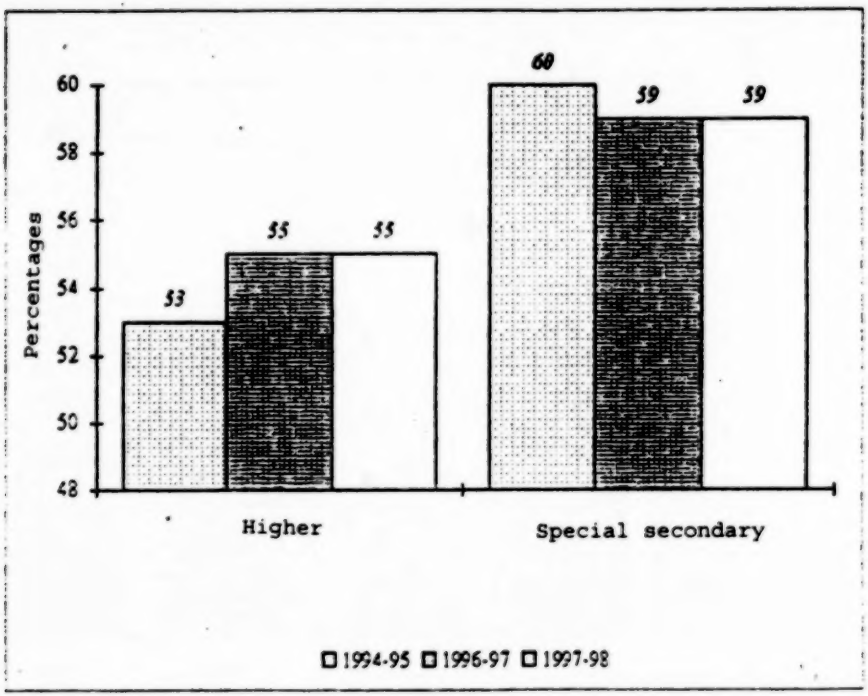
ANNEX IV

Life expectancy
(years)



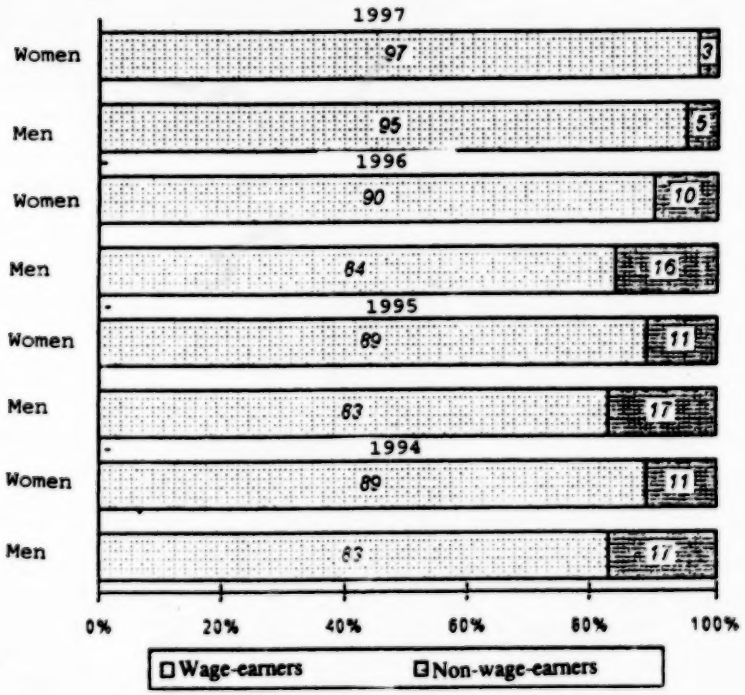
ANNEX V

Proportion of women in higher and special secondary education



ANNEX VI

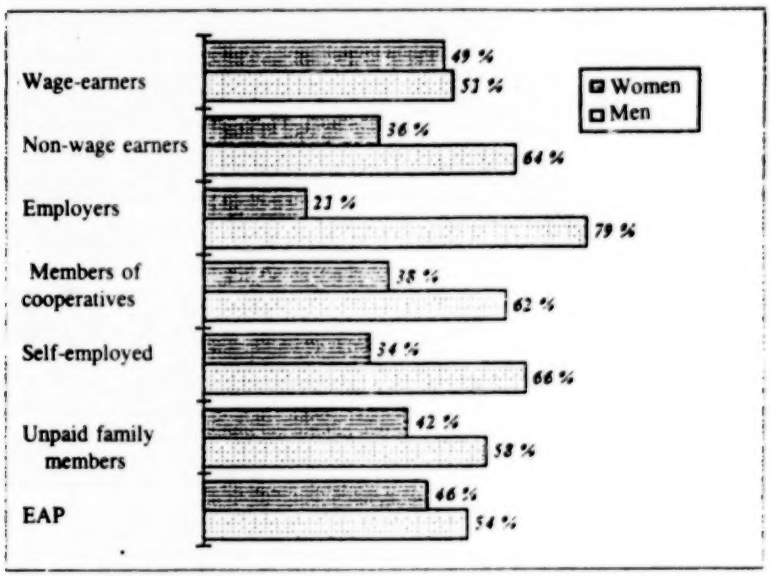
Economically active population, by occupation and sex - wage-earners and non-wage-earners (percentages of total)



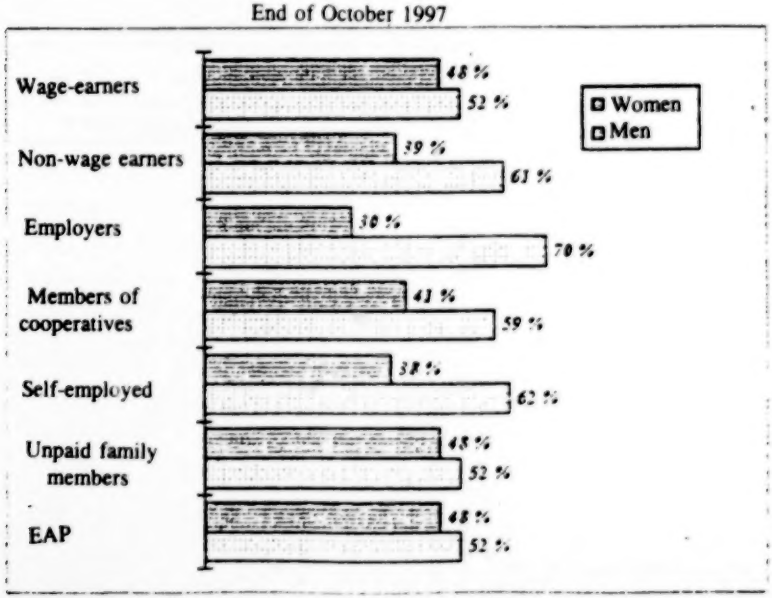
ANNEX VII

Economically active population, by occupation and sex - all types of occupation

End of October 1994

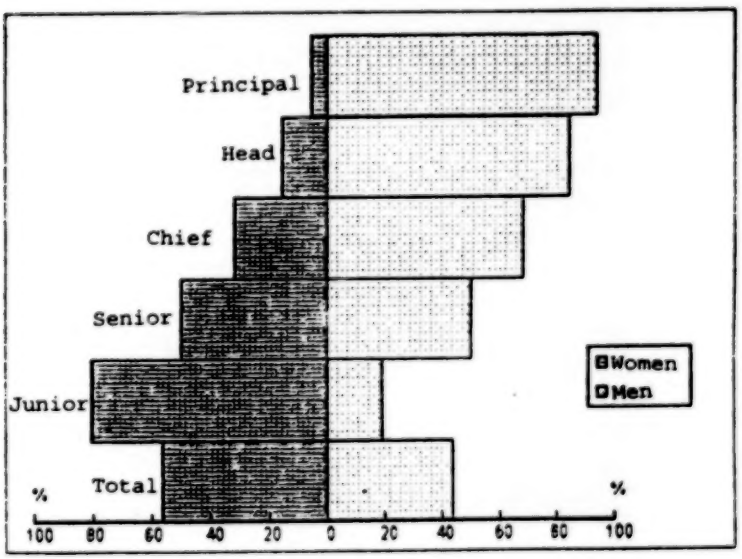


End of October 1997



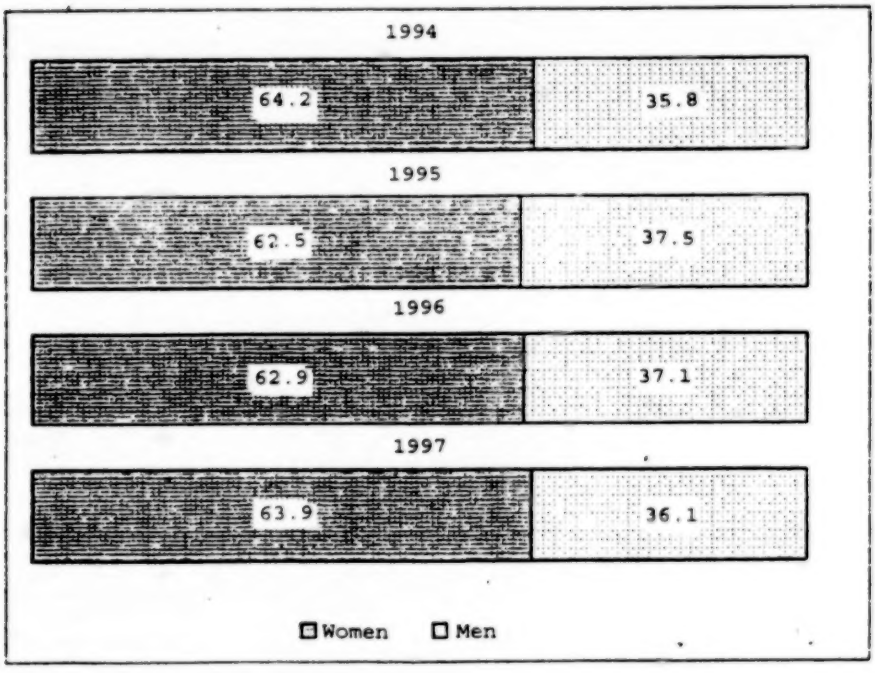
ANNEX VIII

Federal civil servants as of 1 January 1997
(disaggregated by sex and grade)



ANNEX IX

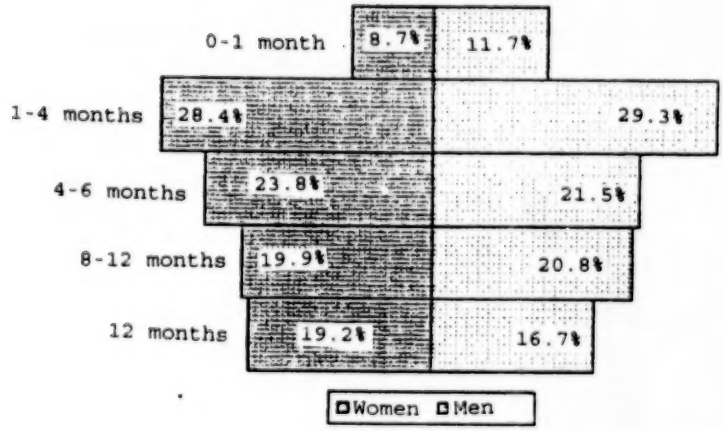
Registered unemployed, by sex (percentages)



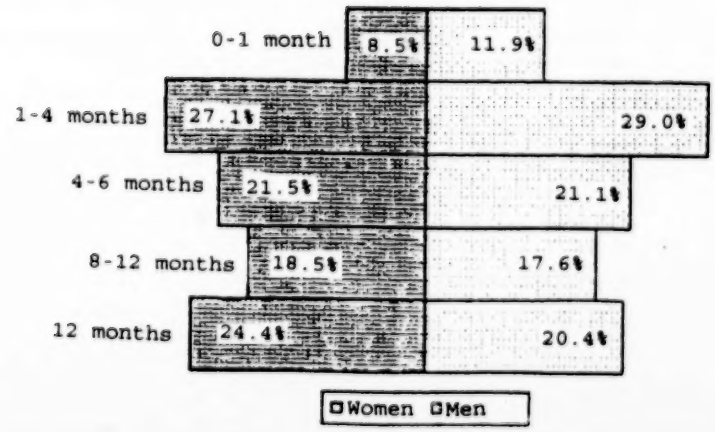
ANNEX X

Registered unemployed, by length of unemployment

1996

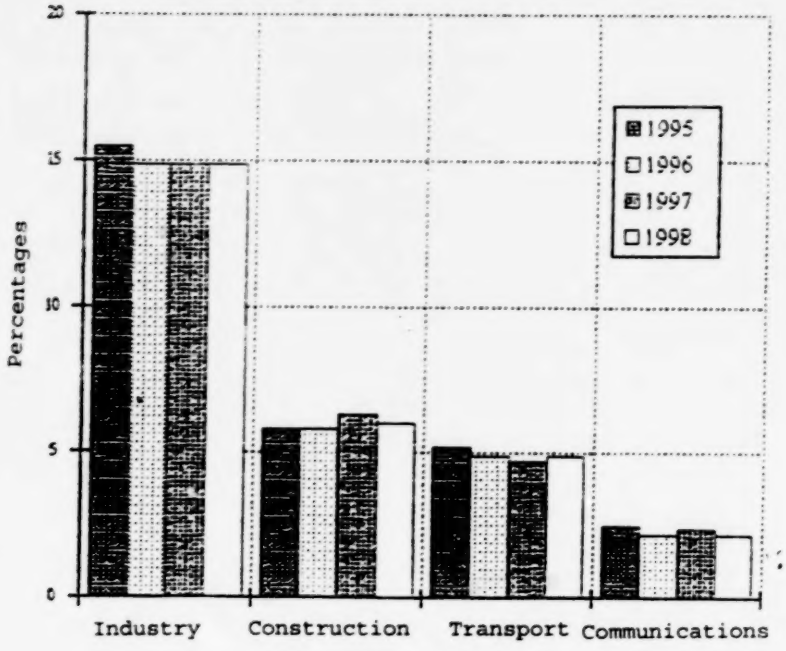


1997



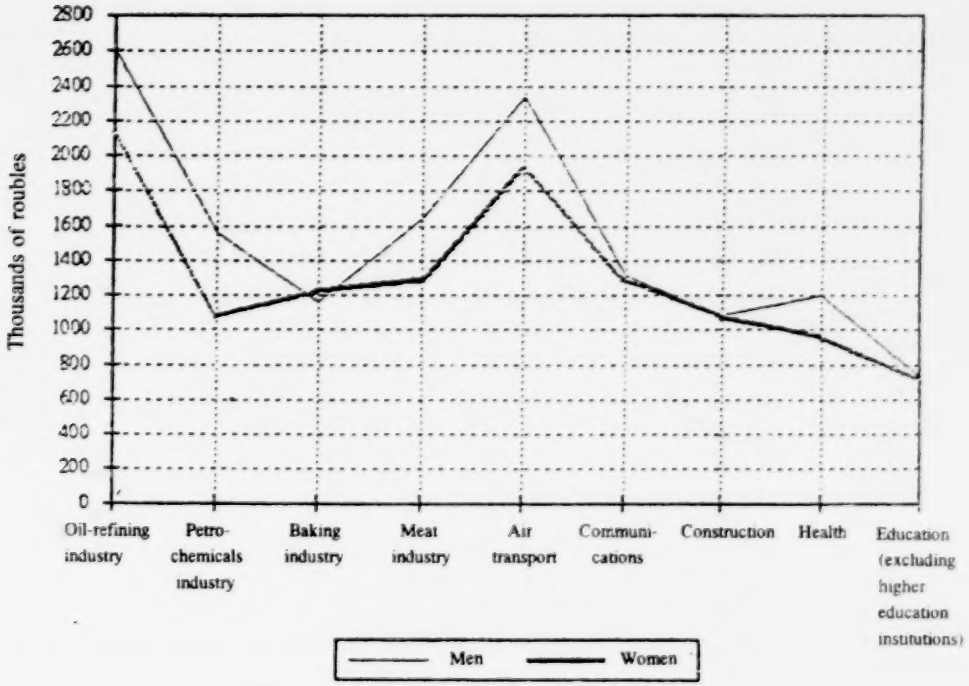
ANNEX XI

Total proportion of women employed in jobs which do not meet the health and safety standards
(at start of year, as percentages of total numbers of workers of the sex in question)



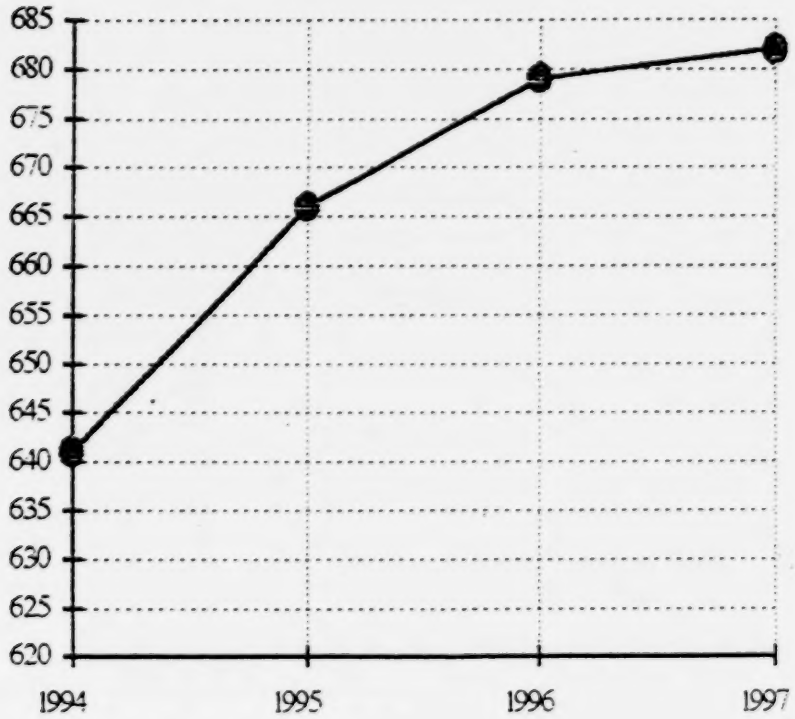
ANNEX XII

Wages in a number of branches of the economy
(according to findings of a one-off sample survey
for October 1997)



ANNEX XIII

Number of places in preschool institutions
per 1,000 children aged 1-6



ANNEX XIV

List of documents annexed to the report

1. Outline on the advancement of women.

2. National Action Plan for the advancement of women and improvement of their role in society up to 2000.

3. Outline of legislation to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women.

4. Proceedings of meetings of the Commission on the Advancement of Women.

5. Proceedings of the first, second and third All-Russian Women's Congresses.

6. Statistical compendium "Women and men of Russia".

7. Handbook "Crisis centres for women: experience of their establishment and operation".